

Het Landsarchief

De plaats waar de herinnering aan het verleden ligt

The history of the Landsarchief in Indonesia (1892-1942)

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“Van oudsher heeft men archieven opgezet, omdat daar het cultuurgood lag opgeslagen”¹

a. Introduction

The term *archive* can refer to two things: firstly, to a document or secondly, to a place where documents are preserved. As described by G.A.N. Scheltema de Heere in the 1923 publication *De Indische Gids*, the term *archive* (or ***archief*** in Dutch) comes from the Greek ***arkhè***, a general term for the authorities in a Republican state of the classical period of Greece. From ***arkhè*** it developed into ***archeion*** or ***archium*** in Latin and also ***archivum*** which refers to any building where a government holds its meetings or the location where it store its deeds.

In current use, an archive can encompass collections of written documents or records which relate to the historical or legal relationships of states, cities, corporations, sexes, etc. In addition, a collection of objects and even magazines can also be included. This means that the archive as a collection of documents and the archive as the building where the documents are preserved are two aspects that should be addressed when discussing the archive.

Archive has an important role both for the creator of the archive and the public. Archives also contain data which can be very useful for the government, while they can also act as a tool for holding the government accountable for its activities. Archives can be useful to the constitutional state in that they perform the cultural legacy of a nation. Originally, the archive was created as evidence of an organization's or individual's activities. In more recent times, it functions as a historical source which can be useful in writing historiography.² F.C.J. Ketelaar argues that archive has two functions: firstly, it acts as *munimenta*, meaning, a document that contains evidence to justify and strengthen everyone's privilege; and secondly,

¹ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang* 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer* 58

² Ketelaar, F.C.J., "Archieven: munimenta en monumenta", in Frans Grijzenhout (red), *Erfgoed de Geschiedenis van een Begrip*, Amsterdam, Amsterdam University Press, 2007, pp. 85-107.

the archive functions as *monumenta*, meaning that its contents possess historical value. Ketelaar explains that the secrecy and the involvement of the government in the archives serve a primarily administrative purpose. In other words, the government's involvement in the archives serves to protect the administrative interests of the government. For example, prior to the eighteenth century, there were many arguments on behalf of protecting the records, indicating that the archives has particular value assigned to it that persists over time. This value extends through time and consciousness.³

On January 28, 1892, the Dutch East Indies government made the important decision to appoint an official officer, the Landsarchivaris, to manage and preserve the archive for historical writing and science. The creation of such a position implies that the Dutch colonial government already acknowledged the importance of managing of the archives that had been established since the time of the VOC (the Dutch East India Company). In addition, this date also marked the birth of the Landsarchief as an archival institution.⁴

The process of establishing the Landsarchief in Batavia was complicated and took a great deal of time. Prior to 1892, many parties questioned the importance of establishing an institution that would preserve the archive. Additionally, the cost was considered quite expensive. However, the Dutch colonial government, the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies and other parties that were concerned with the archives and their role in history, continuously proposed the establishment of the Landsarchief. One of the most important remarks related to the establishment of the *Landsarchief* was a statement made by Dr. W. R. baron van Hoëvell in 1854. He was once the official historian in the Dutch East Indies who later became a member of the *Tweede Kamer* ((Lower) Parliament of the Netherlands) and State Council in the Dutch East Indies. Van Hoëvell argued that without supervision and preservation by an archivist, the life of the archives would be shorter than it ought to be. Indeed, the climate in the Dutch East Indies threatened the state of the archives and, if they remained unattended in the current conditions, the climate would destroy them. Over the subsequent years, several steps were taken by the Dutch East Indies government until finally, in 1892, they established the Landsarchief.

Although the Landsarchief was eventually established, this did not mean that the archive had its own building. On the contrary, the storage space for the archive was a problem since the beginning. The already abundant number of archives in the Landsarchief

³ Ketelaar, F.C.J., "Archieven: monumenta en ...", pp. 86-89.

⁴ Verhoeven, F.R.J., *Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië 1892-1942*. Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1942, p. 1.

increased because it also preserved archives created by the ruling administration's governmental institutions, that included an excess of documents considered no longer of use. Many steps were taken to solve the issue of space issue, which included relocating the Landsarchief several times to different places: first, to the palace of Daendels, *Westpakhuizen*⁵, then to a building in Harmonie Societeit and finally, to a building belonging to Reiner de Klerk in the area called Molenvliet, where the Landsarchief remained for several decades. Later on, at the end of 1940s, the *Landsarchief* also moved to Buitenzorg and then settled at last in Ampera Raya, Jakarta Selatan. At this point, the Landsarchief changed its name to Arsip Nasional of the Republic of Indonesia (hereafter ANRI). However, this thesis focuses on the Landsarchief's existence between the 1920s and 1940s.

Even before the establishment of the Landsarchief, in the early nineteenth century, the Dutch colonial government already started to arrange the archives to make them accessible to government officials. The archive was not, however, open to the public. There were restrictions on accessing and publishing documents that belonged to the Dutch colonial government. No one could peruse old documents without the permission of an authorized officer from the Algemene Secretarie. In order to access personal files or documents belonging to former civil servants, the interested parties must submit an official statement from the Dutch colonial government. The statement would give them access to all the colonial government's documents including originals, copies, extracts or minutes.⁶

b. Research Questions

This research discusses the history of the Landsarchief from its establishment in 1892 until the Japanese occupation in 1942. In this research, I investigate how the Landsarchief managed the archives that were in their custody, how access was granted or restricted, and how the Algemene Rijksarchief in the Netherlands served as a model for the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies. The research questions for my thesis will be:

1. What were the main policies, purposes and activities of the Landsarchief in the period between 1892 and 1943?

This question can be divided into three sub-questions:

- a. What role did the Landsarchief play in relation to the government?

⁵ Westpakhuizen is warehouse that located near the port in Batavia (Sunda Kelapa), now Jakarta. There were two warehouses that were built during the VOC period: *West pakhuizen* and *Zuid pakhuizen*.

⁶ RegeeringsAlmanak voor Nederlandsch-Indië 1892 eerste gedeelte (Grondgebied en bevolking, inrichting van het bestuur van Nederlandsch-Indië en bijlagen) p.219

- b. What role did the Landsarchief play for the historians and other researchers in the Dutch East Indies or, in other words, who had access to the archives and under what conditions?
 - c. What policy did the Landsarchief develop around the acquisition of private archives and the selection of government archives or, in other words, which archives were transferred to the Landsarchief?
2. How did the position of the Landsarchief compare to the archival developments in the Netherlands?

c. Previous Related Studies

There are several pieces of literature written in relation to the Landsarchief that were preserved in the Landsarchief. One publication about the history of the *archivalia* in the Landsarchief was written by J.A. van der Chijs, the first Landsarchivaris of the Landsarchief. His publication entitled, *Inventaris van 's Lands Archief te Batavia (1601-1816)*, will be referenced in this thesis. Van der Chijs's work provides insight into the condition of the archives from the period of VOC dominance until 1816. This text will contextualize the conditions that preceded the establishment of the Landsarchief. Moreover, this work provides a general picture of and information about the inventorisation of the collection in the Landsarchief during the early period of its establishment. However, it is limited to the period preceding 1816. In order to further contextualize the situation during its establishment, I also employ text written by F. R. J. Verhoeven, the last Landsarchivaris of the Landsarchief. In his book, *Geschiedenis van het Indische Archiefwezen van 1816-1854*, Verhoeven explains the early steps that led to the establishment of the Landsarchief, including an examination of the policies imposed on the Landsarchief by the Dutch colonial government. He writes about the history of the *Indische* archives that were preserved by the Landsarchief since the VOC period as well as the archives that were produced by the government institutions in the Dutch East Indies at that time. This text also provides information about the collections that were preserved in the Landsarchief.

The significant difference between my research and other related studies is that I not only focus on the history of the establishment of the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies, the activity of the Landsarchief and the policies that emerged related to its function as a government institution, but I also focus on the relationship between the two Dutch archival

institutions: the Landsarchief of the Dutch East Indies and the Algemene Rijksarchief in the Netherlands. I will also explore the role of the Algemene Rijksarchivaris in the establishment of policies that were imposed by the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies and the Algemene Secretaris.

d. Methodology

In order to answer the aforementioned research questions, I will analyse information gathered from primary and secondary sources. This thesis utilizes Verhoeven's personal archives, *Verbaal* of the Ministry of Colonies, *Mail Rapporten*, and archives of the Algemene Rijksarchief as its primary sources. These archives can be found in the *Nationaal Archief* (National Archives) in The Hague, the Netherlands. In addition, *Regeerings Almanak van Nederlandsch-Indië*; and *Staatsblad van Nederlandsch-Indië* will also be examined. As secondary sources, I use texts that were written about the history and the developments of the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies. Most of the literature was written by individuals who previously held the position of Landsarchivaris, including J.A. van der Chijs, F. de Haan, E.C. Godée Molsbergen, and F.R.J. Verhoeven.

These four mostly write about the history, the development and the archival management of the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies. This also includes the policies that were imposed by the Landsarchief. To supplement these accounts, I also use texts written by non-archivists. This step was taken in order to examine a range of perspectives about the Landsarchief, which in turn, establishes a more thorough and balanced picture of the Landsarchief. Some of these texts were written as articles: "The Arsip Nasional of Jakarta" written by Prof. Leonard Blussé, published in the *Itinerario* (journal) volume 3, Number 1 (1979); "Het Landsarchief te Batavia," written by Prof. Dr. W.P.H. Coolhaas in *Historia* (magazine), January 1949; and "Het Lands-archief te Batavia," written by V.I. van de Wall, published in the *Nationaal Archief* of the Netherlands. In his article, Prof. Leonard Blussé describes the condition of the *Landsarchief* after it became the Arsip Nasional of the Republic of Indonesia. Prof. Dr. W.P.H. Coolhaas wrote in his article about the condition of the Landsarchief when it was located in the house belonging to former Governor General of the Dutch East Indies, Reiner de Klerk. Coolhaas also described the building and the use of each room. Meanwhile, V.I. van de Wall's article only described the building in which the Landsarchief was housed, taking a more architectural approach to the subject. As additional secondary sources, the thesis also employs newspapers that were written during the colonial

period and were published in the Dutch East Indies. These newspapers illustrate the conditions in both the Dutch East Indies and the Netherlands and can be accessed online at *Historische Kranten* at www.kranten.kb.nl. I also use the *Staten Generaal* archives, which discuss decisions and budgets related to the Dutch colonial government in the Dutch East Indies. The Staten Generaal's archives can be accessed online at the www.statengeneraaldigitaal.nl.

With regard to the time period of interest, this thesis explores events between 1892 and 1942, covering the establishment of Landsarchief until the Japanese occupation of the Dutch East Indies. More specifically, this research will mainly focus on the period between the 1920s and 1940s, when the Landsarchief made substantial changes in its organisation. During this period it established a commission to supervise the activity of the Landsarchief and appointed an Adjunct-Landsarchivaris (an assistant to the Landsarchivaris).

It is also important to note that in this research I frequently use the term *management*. This term refers to management in archival work, which covers archival arrangement, archival description, archival activity, imposed policies related to the archives, storage rooms and the location where the archives were stored.

This thesis is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is an introduction that contains background, research questions, previous related studies and methodology. The second chapter entitled, "Where the Archive is There is the Knowledge. Het *Landsarchief*: Its History and Personnel," focuses on the history of the Landsarchief and its personnel. However, the personnel discussed in this chapter are only the personnel who had an important role in the development of the Landsarchief: the Landsarchivaris and Adjunct-Landsarchivaris with addition others function who played an important role in the development of the Landsarchief. This chapter is divided into two subchapters. The first subchapter is titled "The History of the Landsarchief," and the second subchapter is referred to as "The Personnel of the Landsarchief." The third chapter, entitled, "The Landsarchief: Its Role and Its Collections," focuses on the role of the Landsarchief in the Dutch colonial government and in the lives of others who had access to the collections, namely, historians. This chapter also discusses the policies related to the accessibility of the archives in the Landsarchief, the collections of the Landsarchief, and the process of how archives were acquired. This chapter is divided into three sub-chapters: "The Role of the Landsarchief for the Dutch East Indies Government"; "The role of the Landsarchief for Historians and Others with Access to the Archives in the Landsarchief;" and "The Collection of Archives of the Landsarchief. (The Process of Acquisition of the Archives)". The fourth chapter is "The

Relationship between the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies and the Algemene Rijksarchief in the Netherlands”. As made evident by its title, this chapter discusses the cooperation between the two archival institutions in the Dutch East Indies and the Netherlands, including the role of the Algemene Rijksarchief and the Algemene Rijksarchivaris in the Landsarchief policy construction. The final or fifth chapter is the conclusion, which reflects on the preceding chapters.

Chapter II. Where the Archive is There is Knowledge. *Het Landsarchief:* Its History and Personnel

II.1. The History of the Landsarchief

“Jangan sekali-sekali melupakan sejarah!” is one of the most famous quotations from Soekarno, which is known by almost all Indonesian people. This quotation in English literally means “Never forget the history!” Soekarno believed that a great nation is one where its citizens remember their collective past. From history, we can learn about the past, which in turn, can help us to create a better world.

In this chapter, I describe the Landsarchief as an institution formed by the Dutch colonial government in the Dutch East Indies. This chapter will discuss the establishment of the Landsarchief, including the appointment of the Landsarchivaris, the individual in charge of managing the Landsarchief. The policies that were imposed by the Landsarchief and how they contributed to archival development in the Dutch East Indies will also be described here. Moreover, this chapter will discuss the ways in which the organization of the Algemene Secretarie or Governor General of the Dutch East Indies controlled the activities of the Landsarchief.

As the archival institution in the Dutch East Indies, there are two factors that demonstrated why the establishment and the management of the Landsarchief became very important. Firstly, the Landsarchief was the central repository of archives that belonged to the Dutch colonial government, which also included archives from the previous administrations (both the VOC and the British interregnum). Secondly, the establishment of the Landsarchief also stimulated the development of a general system of arranging the archives in the Dutch East Indies. Furthermore, its rising importance as a center of scientific historiography research was marked by the establishment of the History division of the Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen (Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences) and the establishment of the Far Eastern Commission of the Comité International des Sciences Historiques (International Committee of Historical Sciences) in August 1938.⁷

⁷ “Het Landsarchief. Uit het Jaarverslag.” *Het Nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*. 16-06-1939, 5 Jul. 2012 <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010227204%3Ampg21%3Ap007%3Aa0085>>

The Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences had a very important role for the Landsarchief. It was thanks to the persistence of this institution that the Landsarchief was established.⁸ Furthermore, this institution had a close relationship with each Landsarchivaris. The Landsarchief and the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences cooperated on the publication of many texts about archives and old documents. Various *Landsarchivarissen* published their works in the journal that belonged to the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences, the *Tijdschrift Bataviaasch Genootschap* (TBG). Also, in order to conduct research the Landsarchivaris used the archives that were under the custody of the Landsarchief. For example, F. de Haan, before he was appointed Landsarchivaris, had already published many of his works in the TBG. Even after he was appointed as the Landsarchivaris, de Haan still published many of his works in that journal.

Furthermore, the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences proposed that the Dutch colonial government buy and preserve many of the old buildings in Batavia. One of these houses belonged to the former Governor General of the Dutch East Indies, Reiner de Klerk. Later in 1925, the building was used to store the Landsarchief. Although the Landsarchief and the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences had a close and significant relationship, this thesis will not address their interactions further.

II.1a. Before the establishment of the Landsarchief

Long before the VOC came to the islands now known as the Indonesian archipelago, many of the sailors who traversed the oceans documented their journeys by keeping a journal. Those journals were later to become important later on for others who sailed to Asia, Africa and elsewhere. From the journals, the VOC learned which routes were most suitable to travel.

The journal is just one way in which the memory of a person can be documented. Memory can refer to the personal and as well as the collective experience of the past. It is believed that every individual has their own memories that belong to them alone. Sometimes those memories are shared with others who usually have a common background, experience, heritage, tradition, learning, etc.⁹ Over time memory can be transferred into other media; not only onto paper but also to cassettes, films, etc. and with the current developments of

⁸ Jaquet, F.G.P., and A.E.M. Ribberink, "Mr. J.A. van der Chijs en de instelling van het Landsarchief", *Nederlands Archievenblad* 95, no.3, September 1991, p. 191

⁹ Crane, Susan A., "Introduction: Of Museums and Memory", in Crane, Susan A., *Museum and Memory*, Stanford California, Stanford University Press, 2000, pp. 1-13

technology it becomes possible to keep memory in digital form. Memories that were transferred into journals, diaries, or any other paper based form, as well as those in recorded as audio or audiovisual and also digital can be called archive.

The creation of archives started as early as the Vereenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie (VOC or Dutch East India Company) years or, most likely, before the establishment of the VOC itself. During the VOC era, the purpose of archive creation was for the benefit of the trading company. After this period, archive was used for the administration of the ruling government. The documents that were kept during the VOC period in the Dutch East Indies indicate that an archive was in the process of being established.

In the time of what was called the “wild journey” and also after the establishment of the VOC, manuscripts documented every ship that sailed to the areas now known as Indonesia. Those documents contain instructions, articles, letters, *zeilaasorders*, *connossementen* (bills of lading), journals, *soldijrekeningen* (bills of sale), testament books, minutes of resolutions of the *Breeden Raad*, civil and criminal judgments, interviews, statements, etc.

Documents that included information about factories, forts, ships, merchandise and war ammunitions, as well as incoming and outgoing letters, instructions and *Memorie van Overgave* (Memorandum of Resignation) contained information about particular areas of interest to the administration. Each document reflected on the situation and conditions experienced by a certain officer at a given moment in time. One report in particular gives evidence of the beginnings of an archive. It was a report from an officer of the preceding government regarding the area under his control. This report contains a list of personnel and vessels, as well as documentation of contracts with the natives, maps, etc. The VOC decision makers (the Gentlemen XVII) in the Netherlands had already established a fixed rule for bookkeeping, which served as a guideline for officers in distant regions who were charged with implementing plans for forts and castles, oath forms (or most probably contracts), prayer forms, etc. A statement made by J.P. Coen, the first Governor General in the Dutch East Indies, in his letter to the *Hoge Regeering* (Supreme Government) on January 1, 1614 illustrates the prominence of the bookkeeping rule:

Wij hebben gesien een verthooninghe (aan U.E. gedaen) in wat maniere de genneraellen boecken of rekenyngen behooren ende gehouden connen werden. De remonsrantie is zeer goet.... ‘t En can oock in geen andere manieren gedaen werden.

Roughly translated, this indicates that the way of the high ranking people of the VOC in the Netherlands arranged their documents was very good, therefore, the same way of arranging the document would be implemented in the Dutch East Indies.

Not long after, J.P. Coen established bookkeeping in Bantam (which is now known as Banten).¹⁰ In order to complete this task, he sent for paper and writing materials, including pen and ink. However, most of the documents did not survive; the bookkeeping in Bantam was burned. According to the letter sent by J.P. Coen to the Netherlands on August 5, 1619, when he left the documents in Fort Jacatra for an expedition to the Moluccas Island, the documents were burned, most likely by the inhabitants who lived near the area of Fort Jacatra.¹¹ Unfortunately, when it came to documentation from this era not all the inks or pens were of high quality and over the time the writing became illegible. Not all writing material of the time used ink that was created from a good recipe; sometimes, the ink was composed of too much of a corrosive substance. If that happened, it could destroy the calligraphy and produce holes in the document. Another common problem of the ink of this period was that the letters would blur, causing the words to run together. If the calligraphy was written on the both sides of the paper, then more brown spots would bleed through the sheet, making it difficult to read.

At the end of the eighteenth century and the beginning of the nineteenth century, another problem with the legibility of certain documents appeared. In these documents, the ink was so watery; that the writing was completely unreadable, unless it was covered with chemicals.

The archives that were created during that period mostly contain information about the activities of the VOC as seen by its officers in the Dutch East Indies. As the biggest trade company in the Netherlands, it was very important that it have knowledge of the conditions in the Dutch East Indies. These conditions would influence the decisions made by the *Heeren Zeventien* (Gentlemen XVII) about the trading activities of the VOC. The archives which were created during that period were mostly reports from the Governor General in the Dutch East Indies to the Gentlemen XVII in the Netherlands.

After the VOC went bankrupt (1795) and the administration in the Dutch East Indies was replaced by the Dutch colonial government, the exchange of news or reports from the Dutch East Indies to the Netherlands continued. Before the Landsarchief was established,

¹⁰ The bookkeeping facility most likely consisted of a building used to keep or create documents.

¹¹ Molsbergen, Dr. E.C. Godée, *Geschiedenis van het Landsarchief tot 1816*, *Tijdschrift voor Indische Taal-, Land-, en Volkenkunde*, deel LXXVI, Het Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen, 1936, pp.5-6

those archives, including archives that were created during the British interregnum in the early nineteenth century, were under the control and the management of the Algemene Secretarie. According the *Inventaris van 's Lands Archief te Batavia (1601-1816)* written by the first Mr. J.A. van der Chijs, there were approximately 18,387 *banden*¹² and *bundel*¹³ of archives that were created since the VOC period.¹⁴

There were several factors that damaged the documents in addition to the poor ink quality and the use of perishable materials. Other detrimental factors included the relocation of documents from one government building to another (as will be discussed in the subsequent section) and the tropical climate. The humid weather and insects and other small creatures contributed to the mounting number of lost or damaged archives. The humidity caused the papers to retain water and the insects ate, bred and housed themselves in the documents, causing them to rot.

Measures to Preserve the Documents

It seemed that the directors of the VOC already realized the potential damage that could affect the information written in the archives. Since this information was of utmost importance to the VOC itself, they took two precautions. Firstly, they sent copies of the important documents to the Netherlands. They often used different ships in order to reduce the risk of the archives being lost or damaged in a shipwreck. The Gentlemen XVII always needed the documents that were sent by their director and staff in Batavia in order to impose new policies. Therefore, it was better to have a lot of copies of a document than to lose important information. (This is why some of the archives contained multiple copies of the same document.) Later, those documents were placed in the building where the *Hoge Regering* (Supreme Government) resided, in the Castle of Batavia.¹⁵ The Hoge Regering also often performed regular maintenance on the archives. However, numerous bundles fell prey to white ants and other insects.¹⁶

During the VOC period, in order to keep their archives safe, the Hoge Regering imposed a resolution related the use of the archives. It included to what extent and when the

¹² Band (singular) or banden (plural) is a merged documents in the book form wherein the documents were created separately. 9 Apr. 2012 <<http://archiefwiki.org/wiki/Band>>

¹³ Bundel is a quantity of documents which were aggregated by the later officer (archivist). 9 Apr. 2012 <<http://archiefwiki.org/wiki/Bundel>>

¹⁴ Chijs, Mr. J.A. van der., *Inventaris van 's Lands Archief te Batavia (1601-1816)*. Zamengesteld en uitgegeven op last van de Nederlandsch-Indische, Regeering. Landsdrukkerij, 1882. p. III

¹⁵ Coolhaas, Prof. Dr. W. Ph., "Het Landsarchief te Batavia", *Historia*, Volume 14, No. 1, January 1949:6

¹⁶ *Ibid.*

archives could be seen, and declared that a person appointed by the VOC would be in charge of the archives. The resolution is as follows:

*Om te visiteren alle d'oude pampieren en schriften die bij het comptoir van den Gouverneur Generael, ende besonder in sekere gesloten Portugese kist, binnen de vergaderingh sael van sijn Edt. berustende, item van de dienstige, off die t' eeniger tijt noch te passe connen comen, pertinente registers te maecken, ende de reste te casseeren, wert bij desen gecommitteert, den E. Pensionaris Joan Maetsuycker, g'adsisteert met d'oppercooplyuden Nicolaes Overschie en Dirck Snoucq, welke boven hun besoiignes in den Raedt van Justitie, haer dagelyckx werck hiervan sullen hebben te maecken.*¹⁷

The preceding paragraph indicates that members of the public who wished to see the old documents that were under the Governor General's care should have permission. Those documents were managed by pensioner Joan Maetsuyker who was assisted by Nicolaes Overschie and Dirck Snoucq.

The person in charge of the documents prior to the appointment of the Landsarchivaris

Before the VOC in the Dutch East Indies officially appointed a person to manage their documents, it would at times select someone to do an investigation using the archives. The VOC then requested that the investigation be recorded or registered in the archives and, if necessary, the documents would be copied. Knowing that these activities were very important, on July 29, 1641, the VOC decided to appoint a committee to perform these tasks. The first member of the committee was the pensioner Joan Maetsuycker, who later became Governor General of the Dutch East Indies. The regular monitoring of the documents was under the Secretary of the government to second man of the secretariat, the first clerk. This position of official secretary was seemingly a good step for someone's career, since some of the secretaries later became governor generals.

Camphuys, Van Hoorn, and Van Swol all served as official secretaries, and later held the position of Governor General in the Dutch East Indies. Camphuys became first official secretary from 1666 until 1671 and served as Governor General from 1684 until 1691. Camphuys was one of few people during the VOC period who was interested in science and had a particular interest in history. Van Hoorn became first official secretary in 1676, serving

¹⁷ Molsbergen, Dr. E.C. Godée, "Geschiedenis van het Landsarchief...", pp.7

until 1678. He later acted as Governor General from 1701 until 1709. Van Hoorn was said to be a man with great talents in the management. Van Swol held the first official secretary position between 1690 and 1691, later serving as governor general from 1713 until 1718.¹⁸ Jan van Riebeeck was also a first clerk before he became a Governor General of the Dutch East Indies. He was a predecessor to Camphuys, and an extremely precise and orderly man.

One of the tasks of the first official secretary was to provide the Secretary of the Hoge Regering with the correct documents that were deemed important to the administration. However, the overwhelming mass of documents made proper storage difficult, and it was very difficult to locate a document after it had been returned to the archives.¹⁹ Shortly after 1680, in order to deal with this problem, a record was made in a *Notitieboek* (notebook) in order keep better track of the movement of important documents. This notebook was taken from the general books which contained resolutions and letters, maps and drawings found in the conference room of the Hoge Regering. The *Notitieboek* was the first known inventory.²⁰

After the appointment of the first official secretary to record archival activity, on January 11, 1735, the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies and its councils declared a resolution that would appoint one or two persons who were known as *archivarii* to perform the function of archivists.²¹ These two persons acted as archivists but also still continued their functions as trading merchants under the VOC. The first *archivaris* was a merchant while the second was a second rank merchant.²² During the British interregnum (1811-1816) the government still employed one or two people as archivists. At this time, a Pastor called Philippus Wedding was appointed as the *archivaris*.²³

Pastor Philippus Wedding was a member of the Royal Batavian of Arts and Sciences and secretary of the *Bijbelgenootschap* (Bible Society). He was chosen by the Commissioners General shortly after the restoration of the Dutch colonial government. However, on July 15, 1817, his request to resign as the keeper of the government archives was denied. Wedding apparently persisted and served this function for a considerable time. According to Resolution No. 6 implemented by Governor General Van der Capellen on July 26, 1827, Philippus Wedding was invited by Secretary Assey to assist J.C. Baud to sort the archive that was taken over from the British rule. Approximately two years after Philippus Wedding

¹⁸ Coolhaas, Prof. Dr. W. Ph., "Het Landsarchief te Batavia", *Historia*, Volume 14, No. 1, January 1949:6

¹⁹ Molsbergen, Dr. E.C. Godée, "Geschiedenis van het Landsarchief...", pp.7-8

²⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 8

²¹ *Ibid.*

²² Coolhaas, Prof. Dr. W. PH, "Het Landsarchief te...", pp. 6

²³ Jaquet, F.G.P, and A.E.M. Ribberink, "Mr. J.A. van der Chijs...", pp. 192.

requested his own resignation, the Dutch colonial government implemented Resolution No. 16 on February 19, 1819, which made Wedding's resignation definitive.²⁴ The resolution also stated that the old archives of the state would be placed under the immediate supervision of the Algemene Secretarie. Also, it was decreed that, if necessary, a temporary staff with specific qualifications would arrange the documents, bind the documents, etc.²⁵

The storage room for old documents

It was not easy to find a good place to store all the documents, especially due to the climate of the Dutch East Indies. The combination of corrupted ink, humidity and insects caused significant damage to the archives. In addition, there was too little space for the amount of archival material, so officials decided to burn documents which were considered to be less important to the government.

Between 1801 and 1811, many archives were incinerated, even those that would be considered of interest to historians today. Herman Willem Daendels was known for his decision to burn documents and for this he was known as *bête noire* (black beast) by many nineteenth century people, as well as among the liberal historians. However, the decision to burn documents was not Daendels's alone; his predecessors also had a history of this behaviour. Apparently, under Thomas Stamford Raffles, the situation started to improve. Raffles established a commission that was charged with the monitoring, sorting and registration of all received books and archives. The commission consisted of a few very senior officials and Phillippus Wedding was appointed as the person in charge of caring for the archives.²⁶

Before the Algemene Secretarie took over the management of the old documents, the documents were stored in several rooms in the government building in Molenvliet. Later, the Algemene Secretarie was instructed to determine whether or not those archives would be moved to warehouses or another suitable government building in Batavia. Shortly thereafter, the Dutch colonial government imposed decision No. 11 on March 18, 1819. The decision stated that the archives should be kept in the empty part of the warehouses located inside Batavia, where the military garments were stored.²⁷

It cannot be said with certainty which building in Batavia housed the main office Algemene Secretarie. However, in the article written by Prof. Dr. W. Ph. Coolhaas entitled,

²⁴ *Ibid.*

²⁵ *Geschiedkundige Nota over de Algemeene Secretarie*, (Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1894) 11

²⁶ Coolhaas, Prof. Dr. W. PH, "Het Landsarchief te ...", pp. 6

²⁷ *Geschiedkundige Nota over de Algemeene Secretarie*, (Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1894) 11

“*Het Landsarchief te Batavia*,” he mentions that in 1824, under the governor general Van der Capellen, the Algemene Secretarie was located in a building in Rijswijk and, in 1827, it was moved to the government building in Waterlooplein. However, while the oldest documents that describe the location of the Algemene Secretarie mention that the Algemene Secretarie was located in the Government house in Rijswijk, the other documents indicate that the Algemene Secretarie was located in the Government house in Molenvliet. From this information, it can be concluded that the bureau, as a whole or in parts, moved more than once under the Algemene Secretarie.

On January 13, 1824 by Resolution No.2, the Dutch colonial government purchased a private residence for the Algemene Secretarie. In addition, it was also said that before the purchase of the residence, the Algemene Secretarie used a part of the Harmonie Societeit’s building as their office. Furthermore, Resolution No.20 written on January 25, 1825 indicated that the old archives were located in one of the attics of the warehouse in the area inside the city of Batavia. It could be the same warehouse as the one that was used as a military warehouse for garment material. However, the most important thing is the resolution explicitly mentions that the archives were split into two parts: the most important and most used documents of the old archives were transferred to the attics of the aforementioned warehouse; meanwhile, the rest of the old documents were moved to the government house in Weltevreden at the beginning of 1828.²⁸

In 1827, the government building in Weltevreden was finally completed. Based on the decision of the *Commissaris-Generaal* on December 25, 1827, several bureau’s from different departments were moved into the new building. Those departments were: the Algemene Secretarie; *Generale Directie van Financiën* (General Directorate of Finance) including *de Algemeene Boekhouding* (the General Accounting); *de Directiën van ‘s Lands Middelen en Domeinen en van ‘s Lands Producten en Civiele Magazijnen* (Departments of State’s Assets, Properties, and Products and Civil Warehouses); *de Algemeene Rekenkamer* (General Accounting Office); *the Hoog-Gerechtshof* (the High Court)); *den Resident van Batavia* (the Resident of Batavia); *de Departementen van Oorlog en Marine* (the Departments of War and Navy); *den Algemeenen Ontvanger* (General Collector); *s’ Landsdrukkerij* (the State’s Printing Office) and *het Postkantoor* (the Post Office).

In the new building in Weltevreden, the Algemene Secretarie occupied nine rooms: six for the different civil servants where more than 40 staff members could be found daily;

²⁸ Geschiedkundige Nota over de Algemeene Secretarie, (Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1894) 10

one room for the archives, which consisted of part of the old VOC archives, Daendels's archives, archives from the British interregnum and also new archives from 1816 onward; and the two other rooms were used by the first Algemene Secretaris and the second Algemene Secretaris. In 1838, the Algemene Secretarie was moved to the government building in Buitenzorg.²⁹

Several proposals to appoint a Landsarchivaris

The abundant number of archives and the amount of old documents that were not in good condition stimulated the emergence of proposals to appoint a person to arrange the archives. In 1847, there was already a proposal addressed to the supreme government in the Dutch East Indies requesting the appointment of a Landsarchivaris. Apparently, there was no response to this proposal. Again in 1860, the same proposal was submitted by the *Raad van Indië* (the Board of the Dutch East Indies) but the result was also the same: no response. In 1863, Governor General Sloet van Beele rethought the appointment of a Landsarchivaris but instead of taking action, in 1864, the Algemene Secretarie established the Department of Statistics. One of the tasks of this department was to classify and catalogue the old archives. However, the Department of Statistics had a different focus, and therefore only contributed a small part to the management of the archives.

In order to prevent the risk of losing the precious documents, in 1862 and 1867 many of the old archives were sent to the Netherlands in order to be preserved in the Algemene Rijksarchief (hereafter ARA). Furthermore, the relocation of the archives was also motivated by the lack of the storage room. One of the collections that was sent to the ARA was the archive of the *Bank der Schepenen* (Bank of Aldermen or Bank of Magistrates).

In his article titled "*Het oud archief te Batavia*," Dr. J.J. de Hollander criticized sending the archives to the ARA in The Hague, because it determined the knowledge of the archives itself. Moreover, there was no permission granted or opportunity given to make observations of or conduct research into these archives. In addition, de Hollander also explained that this situation occurred because there was no catalogue so that not even the archivist or fixed administrator could give an explanation about what kind of information was buried in the archives.³⁰ Dr. J.J. Hollander was a professor in the Royal Academy Military,

²⁹ *Ibid*

³⁰ Hollander, Dr. J.J. De., "*Het oud archief te Batavia*", *De Indische Gids* 1882 No.2, Amsterdam, J.H de Bussy, 1882, pp. 557-558.

head of education in history, geography, the geography and ethnology of the East Indies and also taught several different languages at the Academy.³¹

Aware of the necessity to do something in the interest of the colonial archives, Minister Van Bosse via a *dépêche* on June 1, 1872 (I^a Aaz, No.29/673), indicated his intention to allocate an amount of f11,350 from the budget for the appointment of a so-called *Kolonial Rijksarchivaris* (Royal Colonial Archivist). This archivaris would have the same rank as a *Referendaris* (Senior Government Official) and earn a salary of f 7,200 per year.³²

The Dutch colonial government considered the proposed salary for the archivist too low. It believed that if no greater amount for the archivist could be obtained, it would prefer to send the entire collection of the old archives to the Netherlands. This suggestion eventually was approved by the Minister of Colonies. In the meantime, Governor General Loudon instructed Mr. N.P. Van den Berg and Dr. L.W.G. de Roo to research the value of the old archives that were stored in the general warehouse. Loudon also granted them permission to destroy archives that were considered to be of no historical value and also to make an inventory of the rest of the old archives. The information was made available in different letters, and the archives were then sent to the Netherlands with the purpose of allowing the Algemene Rijkarchivaris to judge which archives were worth keeping.

Meanwhile, how the people of the Dutch East Indies valued the archives began to change. In contrast to many of his predecessors, Governor General Van Lansberge believed that preservation of the old archives in the Dutch East Indies was highly desirable. Van Lansberge thought that sending the archives to the Netherlands was not necessary because the greater part of the existing documents in the ARA could be found the copy. Therefore, the gaps in the archives could be recovered by providing copies of the missing documents. This meant that copies of the missing documents ought to be produced in anticipation of the destruction of the originals.

Later, according to the letter *dépêche* of the Minister Alting Mess on October 31, 1877 (I^a A¹ No.30/2542), the number of relocated archives abated. In another decision on June 9, 1878 (No.26), the process of copying old documents commenced, only to be halted on May 26, 1879 thanks to Resolution No. 24. The decision decreed that the cost of producing copies was too high.

³¹ Graaf, S. De, Stibbe, D.G., *Encyclopaedie van Nederlandsch-Indië* tweede druk, tweede deel H-M, 's Gravenhage, Martinus Nijhoff, Leiden, N.V. v/h E.J. Brill. p.101-102

³² *Geschiedkundige Nota over de Algemeene Secretarie*, (Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1894) 176-177

In spite of its varied actions, it appeared that the Dutch colonial government became increasingly aware of the importance of placing the archives under direct and daily supervision. This recognition as well as the desire to remain loyal to the general interest, led to the assignment of J.A. van der Chijs as the head of the Department of Statistics of the Algemene Secretarie.

According to the May 29, 1880 (No. 21) decree, J.A. van der Chijs was appointed as the head of the Department of Statistics, he was a non-active senior official. He was assigned to the Department of Statistics to help that department classify and catalogue the old archives. In addition, he also was required to edit important unpublished documents. Van der Chijs was also appointed to help D. Koorders, N.P. van den Berg and L.W.G. de Roo to conduct research related to the condition of the archives, which, at that time, were stored in the warehouses.³³

Since the (old) archives were placed under the supervision and management of the Algemene Secretarie, many of those archives were lost. As previously discussed, several of the archives were destroyed due to insect infestation, the climate, and the lack of a preservation strategy. In the most extreme example of neglect or misuse, one document was even repurposed to outline a military exercise. The archives were neglected to the point where much of it was rendered utterly unfit for use.

However, the situation began to change for the better, in large part due to the tireless work of J.A. van der Chijs. Van der Chijs not only arranged the archives into a comprehensive system but also made an inventory of the archives. His actions illustrated that the archives were of high importance.³⁴ However, these changes did not occur until the 1880s, and prior to that, the archives were in total chaos.

In 1882, appointing a person to manage all the old documents was considered a high priority for many parties. However, it was not easy to appoint another civil servant to perform the tasks of an archivist because the budget would have to fund such a position. Therefore, Governor General's Jacob refrained from appointing a Landsarchivaris. In 1886, there was pressure to appoint a Landsarchivaris, but the pressure was not from the Minister of Colonies. This third time, the matter was taken up by the Minister of Colonies in letter written on April 24, 1891 (No.682/9), which covered the expenditures for the contract of J.A. van der Chijs in detail. J.A. van der Chijs had already dedicated himself to the archives for more than ten years, therefore, it was desirable to trade the expenditure with budget so that it was necessary

³³ *Ibid.*, pp. 177

³⁴ Jaquet, F.G.P, and A.E.M. Ribberink, "Mr. J.A. van der Chijs ...", pp. 192.

to put the expenses of the archival activities that were done by J.A. van der Chijs into the state expenditures (national budget). Not to mention J.A. van der Chijs already performed his job very well by creating an inventory that would be useful to future researchers.

Finally in 1892, the Minister Van Dedem requested and later received an authorization to appoint a Landsarchivaris in the Dutch East Indies. As is made clear in the letter from the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies written on January 28, 1892 (No. 23), Van Dedem officially created the position of Landsarchivaris. The Landsarchivaris was to earn a salary of f500 (five hundred guilders) per month and with annual increase of f50,- (fifty guilders) per month until the maximum amount of f1,000 (one thousand guilders) per month was reached.³⁵

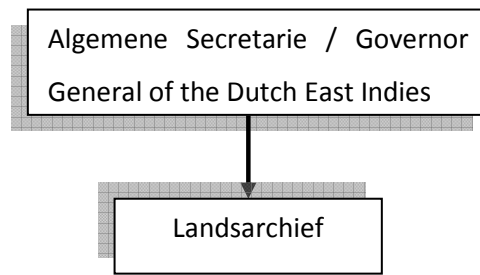
II.1b. After the establishment of the Landsarchief

The appointment of the Landsarchivaris also marked the establishment of the Landsarchief, which brought a new era of the archival system in the Dutch East Indies. After many years of insufficient preservation techniques, at last there was an institution that dealt with archival management. This archival institution's priority was to keep and to preserve the old archives from the VOC era, and also to store information that was of scientific and national importance.

The Landsarchief of the Dutch East Indies exercised its function under the supervision of the Algemene Secretarie. Every policy that was imposed and related with the Landsarchief was to be approved by the Algemene Secretarie. Approval was to be granted by a representative of the Algemene Secretarie by either the Algemene Secretaris or Governor General of the Dutch East Indies. The actions executed by the Algemene Secretarie included the appointment of the Landsarchivaris. The Algemene Secretarie also had access to the archives.

Meanwhile, the Landsarchivaris was given the function of managing and arranging the archives into chronological order. Later, the Dutch colonial government decided to expand the number of Landsarchief personnel by establishing a new function called *Adjunct-Landsarchivaris* (a deputy assistant for the archivist). This position was created in order to help the Landsarchivaris complete his tasks. The relationships between the Landsarchief, the Algemene Secretarie and the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies can be drawn as follows:

³⁵ Geschiedkundige Nota over de Algemeene Secretarie, (Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1894) 178



The archives that were preserved in the Landsarchief were created by government institutions during the VOC period, the British interregnum, as well as archives from the government institutions during the Dutch colonial period. It also included archives from the private sector, which were either purchased by the Landsarchief, or were simply handed over by the government.

In the late 1930s, the Landsarchief functioned as a governmental and scientific institution that served to collect and to preserve archives. It also had other additional tasks such as:

- a. To preserve, to arrange and to make descriptions of all the archives or documents which were restored in the Landsarchief according to the rules of scientific procedures;
- b. To conduct the formation and development of the Dutch East Indies archives;
- c. To contribute on the management of the new historical documents from the Dutch East Indies; and
- d. To provide complete historical information.³⁶

In the 1930s when the Landsarchief was under the management of F.R.J. Verhoeven, the role of the *Landsarchief* as a scientific institution became clearer. The Landsarchivaris also was required to publish the results of research that used the archives preserved in the Landsarchief. Furthermore, the development of the Landsarchief can be seen in the annual reports of the Landsarchief (*Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië*) that was published from the late 1930s until the early 1940s (further will be explain in the section on F.R.J. Verhoeven).

³⁶ *Nederlandsch Archieven Blad*, 51 (1946-1947), pp. 7

Over time, the Dutch colonial government recognized the importance of the development of the Landsarchief as the central repository of information about the Dutch East Indies. This acknowledgement was directly mentioned in the annual report of the Landsarchief in 1937. The 1937 report responded to a question posed in the 1936 *Volksraad*, stating that the Landsarchief was a high priority to the Dutch colonial government. The Dutch colonial government stated that the reorganization of the Landsarchief and the creation of additional staff positions were aimed to comply with the demand for austerity. This also means that the Landsarchief tried to fulfil its function as a scientific institution and a central repository for the Dutch East Indies.³⁷

The storage room of the Landsarchief

Well into the twentieth century, it seems that the problem of storage space for the Landsarchief was still unresolved. The documents increased in number, but the number of storage rooms did not follow suit. The archival storage facilities frequently changed in an effort to accommodate more material. Initially, the archives were stored in the palace of Daendels, until they were moved into the warehouse inside the city of Batavia. Then, they moved to the outbuilding of the Rijswijk palace and Koningsplein palace and the building of the Algemene Secretarie in Batavia. The movement of these archives from one governmental building to another was continued until the twentieth century. In 1925, the archive was stored in the house that was belonged to Reiner de Klerk in Molenvliet (Batavia) under the supervision of the Landsarchief.³⁸

The Molenvliet house was a very old, big and nice building. It had several rooms suitable for governmental use, especially an institution which preserved archives. This building had qualities reminiscent of old Holland architecture. It was bought by the government from the wife of the late Reiner de Klerk at the urging of the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences.³⁹ The ground floor of the main building, which was furnished, was used by the Landsarchief staff and was available to the public with an interest in archival activities. This floor included the library, which contained reading rooms and a small exhibition room. With regard to the pavilions of the house, one side was used as the Landsarchivaris' residence and the other side was used as a bookbinding and photographic

³⁷ Jaarverslag van 's Lands Archief te Batavia over 1937, Batavia, 1938, p.1

³⁸ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 46

³⁹ Wall, V.I. van de., Het Lands-archief te Batavia

atelier. The upper floor of the main building as well as the two buildings in their entirety were filled with rows of wooden and metal racks, where the archives were placed. Before the 1942, prior to World War II, the collection of archives was roughly six kilometres in length, which was more than the available space could accommodate.⁴⁰

Due to the lack of space, in 1930s, the Landsarchief had to refuse *archivalia* from several institutions. Archives that were refused were, for example, archives from the *Pensioenfondsen* (Pension Funds) and archives from the *Wees Kamer* (Orphan Chamber) Batavia. However, even though it had very limited space, the Landsarchief, still accepted archives from the Department of Finance and also archives from the *Binnenlandsch Bestuur* (Domestic Governance).⁴¹ It was not clear what happened to the archives that the Landsarchief refused to store but it is most likely that the departments that created those archives kept them, burned them, or stored them in other places.

The influx of the number of archives from the nineteenth century onward, the increase of personnel, and the need for fireproofing, demanded action. Further expansion, effective storage and expanding the inventory were required. In addition, the Landsarchief decided that some parts of the archives should be moved elsewhere. Selected materials would be moved to the Westzijde Pakhuizen (Westside warehouses) which was located near the sea. Of course, for proper maintenance, this area was not ideal. A plan was made to expand the complex to include a new warehouse space behind the yard of the Landsarchief's building. Unfortunately, World War II thwarted the implementation of these plans.⁴²

Budget and Crisis

Increasing storage space required a significant amount of money. With regard to this issue, the budget affected archival development in the Dutch East Indies.⁴³ In addition, budget was one of the main reasons why the proposal to appoint the Landsarchivaris and to establish the Landsarchief was delayed and even rejected for several times. In the 1930s, when the economic crisis hit the Dutch East Indies, the Tweede Kamer decided to cut expenditures in all government institutions in the Dutch East Indies, including the *Landsarchief*. On February 3, 1921, the newspaper *Het nieuws van den dag voor*

⁴⁰ Coolhaas, Prof. Dr. W. Ph., "Het Landsarchief te ...", pp.5

⁴¹ *Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië, 's Lands Archief, tijdschrift/reeks* 1938, Batavia. p. 12

⁴² Coolhaas, Prof. Dr. W. Ph., "Het Landsarchief te ...", pp.5

⁴³ *Jaarverslag van 's Lands Archief te Batavia over 1937*, Batavia, 1938, p.1

*Nederlandsch-Indië*⁴⁴ mentions that the Landsarchief proposed to add a new staff member with the function as the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris.⁴⁵ As will be discussed further in the following section, this new position would replace the staff member with the same function due to an internal problem in the Landsarchief.⁴⁶ However, the same newspaper published on February 13, 1931 states that the Volksraad rejected the proposal to add the new Adjunct-Landsarchivaris citing the lack of budget.⁴⁷ This proposal would be considered again in the next budget.⁴⁸

In addition, the economic crisis in the 1930s also caused the Algemene Secretarie and its subordinate, the Landsarchief, to be reunited. For the Landsarchief, combining forces with the Algemene Secretarie was a disadvantage because as the central bureau of the Dutch colonial government, the Algemene Secretarie was to act as the paradigm of austerity and efficiency. In addition, the economic crisis in the Dutch East Indies in the thirties caused the salaries of the Dutch colonial government's officials to be cut by 25%. Within a few years, the Landsarchief's zenith ended. The crisis caused serious problems marked by the reduction of Landsarchief personnel. This will be discussed further in the following subchapter.

Although a desperate time, the situation of the Landsarchief did improve slightly in 1938. The Dutch government decided to allocate an amount of f 26,000 to be spent over two years on improving the design of the existing depots in order to obtain sufficient space. This action was characterized by the Dutch government as a tentative solution, created in the hope that the construction of a new storage area at the Landsarchief could be postponed for few more years.⁴⁹

Internal Conflicts

Without question, the problems that faced the Landsarchief not only involved the budget, storage room, etc., but also included internal problems that occurred between the officials who worked in the Landsarchief. In the 1920s there was a conflict between Dr. E.C. Godée Molsbergen, the Landsarchivaris at that time, and P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins, the

⁴⁴ Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië was one of the newspapers that was published in the Netherlands Indies

⁴⁵ "Personeel's Landsarchief", *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*, 03-02-1931, 3 May 2012 <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010229107%3Ampeg21%3Ap005%3Aa0106>>

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

⁴⁷ "Het Lands-Archief. Géén nieuwe Adjunct-Archivaris", *Het nieuws van den dag voor de Nederlandsch-Indië*, 13-02-1931, 3 May 2012 <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010229116%3Ampeg21%3Ap005%3Aa0110>>

⁴⁸ "Kamerstuk Tweede Kamer 1930-1931 kamerstuknummer 364 ondernummer 12. Goedkeuring van de besluiten van den Gouverneur-Generaal van Nederlandsch-Indië, enz". *Staten-Generaal Digitaal*. p.1, 3 Jun. 2012, <<http://www.statengeneraaldigitaal.nl/>>

⁴⁹ Jaarverslag van 's Lands Archief te Batavia over 1937, Batavia, 1938, p.1

Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. Due to this conflict, in July 1927, the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies decided to establish the Landsarchief Supervision Commission (*Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief*). Further, about this conflict will be explained in the second subchapter.

In addition, in the 1920s, when the position of Landsarchivaris was still held by Dr. F. de Haan, many critics voiced their opinions of De Haan's work, and it was also due to this matter that the Dutch colonial government decided to establish a commission. The name of the commission was the *Archiefcommissie*.

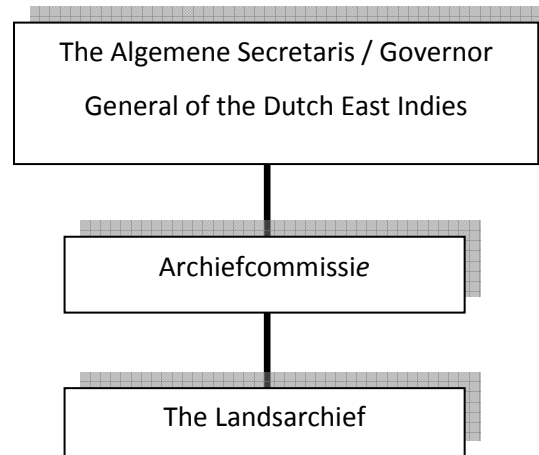
The Archiefcommissie

The Archiefcommissie was established based on the government's decision of August 15, 1923. The chairman of this commission was the Landsarchivaris, and the other four members were among the *Chef van Oudheidkundige Dienst* (Chief of Antiquaries (Archaeological)) and the Librarian of the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences. The commission was instructed to declare the activity regarding with the archival activities such as maintaining the current location of the Landsarchief, preventing further deterioration of the Landsarchief, and made most needed improvements which would have been impossible if the Landsarchief was still located in the Algemene Secretarie's building.⁵⁰

The most important thing that the commission had accomplished was finding a new and much larger building, the House of Reiner de Klerk, for the Landsarchief. Second, important segments of this commission allowed for the compilation of the *Indische archiefwezen* (Dutch East Indies archives) as a whole. By having more space for storage, it was now become possible to give the attention to the old archives that resigned from the service departments, and regional archives. Furthermore, the Archiefcommissie was also involved in the purchasing of devices for reproducing the originals, which were used to prevent the loss of information from the archives. The moving of the Landsarchief from the Koningsplein to Molenvliet (the house of Reiner de Klerk) marked the end of the existence of

⁵⁰Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummer toegang 2.21.281.04, inventarisnummer 46.p. 50

this commission.⁵¹ The structure of this commission and its relation with the Governor General and the Algemene Secretarie and the Landsarchief can be seen as follows:



***Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief* (The Landsarchief Supervision Commission)**

The Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief was given the task of supervising the general preservation methods in the Landsarchief. It also oversaw the work and the activity of the Landsarchivaris, and, if necessary, also monitored other personnel involved in related archival activity or who worked in the Landsarchief. The commission had an obligation to report annually to the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies and include all the activities accomplished in the previous year as well as state the results of investigations completed using in the Landsarchief.⁵²

The Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief consisted of several members. The position of chairman was held by Prof. Mr. A.H.M.J. van Kan., lecturer and chairman of his faculty at the *Rechtshoogeschool* (Law school) in Batavia. Other members included Dr. F.D.K. Bosch, head of the *Oudheidkundigen Dienst* (Archaeological Department); P. Gediking, a librarian of the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences; and as Secretary

⁵¹ *Ibid.*, 50-54

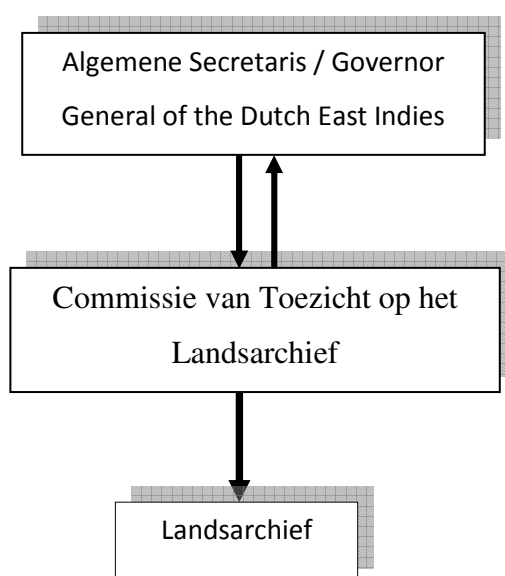
⁵² Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Ministerie van Koloniën, 1850-1900, nummer toegang 2.10.02, inventarisnummer 8884

was Mr. P.J.A. Idenburg who was temporary Secretary of the *Raad van Nederlandsch-Indië* (the (State) Council of the Dutch East Indies).⁵³

As mentioned above, the Supervisory Commission was responsible for a) supervising the archival collections, which included the overseeing the preservation and maintenance of the archives; b) supervising the Landsarchivaris and other staff members who worked in the Landsarchief; and c) offering proposals and giving advice to the Dutch colonial government in matters that concerned the maintenance, expansion, preservation and care of collections. It also was given access to the information. In order to implement its functions, the commission was given the power to instruct the Landsarchivaris. Meanwhile, it also was required to be informed about personnel changes and other forms alteration to the archive.

Even though that none of the members had an archival background, however, the commission exercised its function very well especially in 1931, when there was an internal conflict between two staff's of the Landsarchief.

After this commission was established, the Algemene Secretaris' role in supervising the activity and management of the Landsarchief was transferred to the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief. The expectation was that the archive would thrive under this new leadership.⁵⁴ The functions of the Supervisory Commission can be illustrated as follows:



⁵³ *Ibid.*

⁵⁴ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 46.p. 56-57

It is not very clear how long the Supervisory Commission existed but it most likely persisted until the Japanese occupation. In addition to its other functions, this commission also drafted the job description for the Landsarchivaris and, as with any other commission, it changed its members several times. In 1930, due to his request for departure, Mr. P. Gedeking, librarian of the Royal Batavian Society for Arts and Sciences was honourably discharged as a member of the Supervisory Commission. To replace him, the commission appointed Prof. Mr. A.H.M.J. Kan. Prof. Mr. A.H.M.J. Kan was a member of the Raad van Indië⁵⁵ and formerly also held a position as a member of the commission.⁵⁶ In 1935, the Supervisory Commission also appointed Prof. Mr. Kollewijn as a member of the commission. He was a professor in the Batavia School of Law.⁵⁷ Three years later, the commission appointed another new member, Prof. Mr. Jb. Zeylemaker Jzn, who was also a professor at the school of law.⁵⁸

II.2. The Personnel of the Landsarchief

Since the Landsarchief was founded, the Algemene Rijksarchief served as the paradigm for performing archival management. For example, the Landsarchief was greatly influenced by how the staff was organized. Excluding the subordinate personnel, there were six officials who played an important role in the ARA of the Netherlands. Those persons were: the archivist, the deputy to the archivist, a secretary for a charter (*commies-chartermeester*), a deputy of the secretary (*adjunct-commies*) and two temporary officials.⁵⁹ Although the Landsarchief may have intended to emulate this personnel structure, budget challenges limited the number of staff members it was allowed to have. The high cost and limited budget concerned many parties. Therefore, in its early period, the Landsarchief only had a few staff members: an archivist and a deputy of the archivist. They were assisted by two clerks and a few caretakers (*oppassers*). Of course, this limited staff did not suit the

⁵⁵ Raad van Indië was a central body of the Dutch colonial government in the Dutch East Indies. It was a government under the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies.

⁵⁶ "Lid Commissie van Toezicht op Landsarchief." *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*. 04-07-1930, 12 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010228929%3Amp021%3Ap003%3Aa0043>>

⁵⁷ "Commissie van Toezicht Landsarchief." *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*. 18-02-1935, 13 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010230333%3Amp021%3Ap003%3Aa0043>>

⁵⁸ "Landsarchief." *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*. 17-11-1938, 13 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010227766%3Amp021%3Ap003%3Aa0030>>

⁵⁹ Jaquet, F.G.P., and A.E.M. Ribberink, "Mr. J.A. van der Chijs ...", pp. 200

needs of the institution. This condition persisted until the archive managed to add more officials, most likely in the 1930s or 1940s.

Due to time restraints and the limited number of archives and literature that focus on the Landsarchief staff in Batavia, this subchapter will only focus on the personnel that played an important role in the archival development in the Landsarchief. In this subchapter I will discuss the *Landsarchivarissen* from the period of 1892 until 1942. During this period there were four *Landsarchivarissen* who worked in the Landsarchief. Four of them did not have the same tenure. The longest period one worked at the Landsarchief was seventeen years (Dr. E.C. Godée Molsbergen) and the shortest period was eight years (Dr. F.R.J. Verhoeven). In addition, I will also discuss about the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris and a *Chartermeesteres* (description about this position can be found in the appendix) because they had also played an important role in the development of the Landsarchief.

Twelve years before the Landsarchief was established, in May 1880 to be exact, the Algemene Secretarie, officially selected Dr. J.A. van der Chijs to arrange and classify and catalogue the old documents. As the result of this assignment, in 1882, the Landsdrukkerij published an inventory of the old documents under the title, “*Inventaris van ‘s Lands Archief Batavia (1602-1816)*” and also *Nederlandsch-Indisch plakaatboek* (Book of Edicts of the Dutch East Indies) and the book titled “*Daghregister gehouden in te Casteel Batavia*”.⁶⁰ The job that fulfilled this function was later known as the Landsarchivaris. The Landsarchivaris was in charge of the old governmental archives located in the Landsarchief.

In 1892, when the position of Landsarchivaris was officially established, it was only the archivist that played an important role in the Landsarchief. During its early years, due to limited staff and budget, the Landsarchief often sought volunteers. Those who worked in the Landsarchief were Indonesian as well as European (see appendix I).⁶¹ The formation and number of officers in the Landsarchief was not fixed; positions were created and dissolved. However, in the 1940s, the number of staff members (including volunteers) increased to approximately thirty people. In spite of the increase, thirty personnel was not nearly enough to handle the abundant archives. One of the causes of this problem was the amount of available funds; the budget provided by the Dutch East Indies government was not enough to cover all the expenses for the activities of the Landsarchief.

⁶⁰ Chijs, Mr. J.A. van der., *Inventaris van ‘s Lands Archief te Batavia (1601-1816)*. Zamengesteld en uitgegeven op last van de Nederlandsch-Indische, Regeering. Landsdrukkerij, 1882. p. III

⁶¹ Jaarveslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië over 1938, Landsdrukkerij, Batavia, 1939.p.7

When the position of Landsarchivaris was first established, the job consisted of managing and arranging the old government archives that were no longer of use for the daily administrative activities of the Dutch East Indies government. In addition, the Landsarchivaris was also requested to conduct research and publish the results in books or journals. However, over time, these tasks developed based on the needs of the Landsarchief as an archival and scientific institution, but also based on its subordinate role to the Algemene Secretarie.

In the personal archive of Dr. F.R.J. Verhoeven, there is a draft of the job description for the Landsarchivaris which was proposed by the Algemene Secretarie in the mid 1930s. According to the Algemene Secretarie's document, the tasks of the Landsarchivaris were as follows:

1. The Landsarchivaris was required to always be present at the Landsarchief, unless valid reasons required him to be elsewhere. He was to supervise the other staff during office hours, during which all Landsarchief staff were required to use their time working on their tasks.
2. The Landsarchivaris was to consult with the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief concerning drafts or a work plans in the Landsarchief, including the job descriptions of his staff. Any tasks, with few exceptions, which were not included in their job descriptions or an activity to be completed outside office hours, were permitted at the discretion of the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief.
3. The Landsarchivaris delivered a financial accountability report to the Algemene Secretarie regarding the Landsarchief's annual spending of the state budget. The Landsarchivaris had to use the budget efficiently and follow the national treasury's regulations.
4. The Landsarchivaris had to make a monthly written statement to the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landarchief summarizing the activity of Landsarchief. He was also required to make an annual report every January. The monthly report was to include a specific statement covering the assignments that were completed by the Landsarchivaris and his staff in the past period. This statement included copied documents and its assigned index number or filing card. As part of the monthly report, the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief used the Landsarchivaris to ask the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris to submit a separate report of the specific tasks he completed as deputy archivist. The annual report was modelled after the ARA's annual reports in the Netherlands and contained the information regarding the following: a) the staff of

the Landsarchief; b) the arrangement of the archival collection; c) the condition of archival collection (including measurements of the archives' decay and deterioration of the archives caused by vermin, etc; d) the archive's acquisitions and losses; e) copies (of archival materials) which were made for the Landsarchief and served as the primary source of the information contained therein; f) the printing of published documents; and g) the rooms, furniture and tools, etc. The appendix covered the state of acquisitions under the following classifications: acquired or received as gift, purchased, received on loan, copied or exchanged.⁶²

It seemed that the Dutch colonial government approved the instruction's draft for the Landsarchivaris because in the end of 1930 the Dutch colonial government imposed a decision. In the *Gouvernementsbesluit* on December 30th, 1930, some of the instructions for the Landarchivaris were: the management of the Landsarchief was under the responsibility of the Landsarchivaris in addition, he was responsible for the custody and the usability of the archives and the operation of the Landsarchief archives; further, to be more specified the task of the Landsarchivaris was to maintain the condition of the archives, to make description and to make inventories of the archives. More detail can be seen in the aforementioned instruction's draft. The instruction contains two references to the ARA; the manual for organizing and describing archives and the format of the annual report.⁶³

Since 1931, the Landsarchivaris started to write an annual report concerning the management and the condition of the Landsarchief. Then the report was delivered to the Algemene Secretaris. Seemingly, there was only one annual report that was made in the early 1930s, because, due to the economic depression in the Dutch East Indies, in 1932, the Landsarchief was closed temporarily. Most likely, the annual report emerged again when F.R.J. Verhoeven became the Landsarchivaris. The annual reports of the Landsarchief (*Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië*) from 1937 until 1941 were being published by the Dutch colonial government. As already mentioned, the annual report created by the Landsarchivaris was to be delivered to the Algemene Secretaris, with the intervention of the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief (as one of its task). This commission had the right to give its opinion concerning with the content of the report. An example of this

⁶² Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 46.p. 56-57

⁶³ *Ibid.*, pp. 54

commission, involvement in the annual report of the Landsarchief can be seen in the appendix II.⁶⁴

The *Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië* (the Annual Report of the *Landsarchief*) of 1938 indicates that the Landsarchivaris was assisted by the addition of another staff member whose official title was Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. The appointment of the *Adjunct-Landsarchivaris* had been discussed since 1921. Advice on the matter was sought from Professor Colenbrander and also the Algemene Rijkarchivaris at that time, R. Fruin. However, for an unknown reason P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins was appointed as the *Adjunct-Landsarchivaris* in 1926. This information can be found in the *openbaar verbaal* (public verbal/report) of the Ministry of Colonies, No. 2343. The verbaal contains correspondences between Dr. F. de Haan, Prof. Dr. H. T. Colenbrander and Prof. R. Fruin.

The possibility of adding an Adjunct-Landarchivaris emerged when the Landsarchief was under the management of Landsarchivaris Dr. F. de Haan. There were many critics of de Haan's policies and managerial choices during his time at the Landsarchief. People considered him to be too focused on his publications and argued that he neglected his role as a Landsarchivaris; he allegedly did not dedicate enough time to archival activity such as arranging the archives and assisting researchers and visitors in accessing the archives. As a result of his insufficient job performance, the Dutch colonial government wanted to reorganise the managerial structure of the Landsarchief. They decided to appoint an assistant to the Landsarchivaris so that the Landsarchivaris could still publish his works while simultaneously working as an archivist. However, even after the decision was made, it took several years until the colonial government finally appointed a deputy archivist.

According to the aforementioned verbaal, it seems that F. de Haan did not agree with the appointment of the Adjunct-Landarchivaris. He seemed particularly disapproving when the selected candidate turned out to be Bloys van Treslong Prins, one of the open critics of F. de Haan. In brief, de Haan stated that in his opinion, Bloys van Treslong Prins would not meet expectations of the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris position. Furthermore, he also suggested that the Dutch colonial government should have asked for the second opinions of Professor Dr. H. T. Colenbrander, a historian at the Rijksuniversiteit in Leiden, the Netherlands and also Professor Dr. R. Fruin, the Algemene Rijksarchivaris of the Algemene Rijksarchief in the Netherlands. F. de Haan also stated that in order to manage the Landsarchief, it was better

⁶⁴ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 32

to find someone with knowledge of Arabic and the Javanese alphabet.⁶⁵ This will be discussed further in Chapter IV.

Landsarchivaris

The Landsarchivaris and Adjunct-Landsarchivaris had their own, separate tasks. The Landsarchivaris dealt with the archives in general, new governmental and state archives added after 1811, and map collections. Meanwhile, the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris dealt with old state's archives, from 1596 to 1811, and also historical-topographical picture and print collections.⁶⁶ On November 8, 1938, based on the letter from the first temporary Government's Secretary (No .2201/A)⁶⁷, which was addressed to the heads of the departments of General Administration (*Algemeen Bestuur*), it stated that before the department leaders decided to destroy documents from their departments, they first ought to consult the Landsarchivaris. The Landsarchivaris would then give his judgment about the related documents, and determine whether or not the documents had historical value.⁶⁸

During the period between 1892 until 1943, there were four people who held the position of Landsarchivaris. The first Landsarchivaris was Dr. Jacob Anne van der Chijs from 1892 to 1905. Between 1905 and 1922, the position was held by Dr. F. de Haan. After Dr. F. de Haan, Dr. E.C. Godee Molsbergen served as Landarchivaris from 1922 to 1937. The fourth or last person who held the position as Landsarchivaris was Dr. F.R.J. Verhoeven. Dr. F.R.J. Verhoeven became Landsarchivaris in 1937 and served until 1943.⁶⁹ Each of these former *Landsarchivarissen* published works related with the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies during their period of service.

Meanwhile, during the period of the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies, which lasted from 1892 until 1942, there were only two persons who held the position of Adjunct-Landsarchivaris: P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins from 1926 until 1931⁷⁰ and Dr. J. Th.Vermeulen from 1939 until 1942.⁷¹

⁶⁵ Jaquet, F.G.P., "De eigenzinnige dr. F. de Haan, landsarchivaris 1905-1922", *Nederlandsch Archievenblad* jaargang 95 nummer 1, March 1991.p. 15

⁶⁶ Jaarveslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië over 1938, Landsdrukkerij, Batavia, 1939.p. 15

⁶⁷ This letter was included in the *Bijblad*, in the *Staatsblad* No.14117.

⁶⁸ Jaarveslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië over 1937, Landsdrukkerij, Batavia, 1938.p.1

⁶⁹ 5 Mar. 2012,<http://www.anri.go.id/index.php?option=config&sub_menu=ME0007&k=2727&p=0>

⁷⁰ Jaquet, Frits, "E. du Perron en het Landsarchief." *Indische Letteren*, zevende jaargang.no.3, September 1992.p. 115-125

⁷¹ Jaarveslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië over 1938, Landsdrukkerij, Batavia, 1939.p.7

a. **Dr. Jacob Anne van der Chijs (1892-1905)**⁷²



J.A. van der Chijs or Jacob Anne van der Chijs was the first Landsarchivaris of the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies. He was born on June 1, 1831 in Leiden, the Netherlands. His father was a famous numismatist in the Netherlands. In the years between 1849 and 1855, the young J.A. van der Chijs decided to study law and literature at Leiden University. During his studies, Van der Chijs was very active: in 1854 and 1855 he was a member of the Student Union and also served as the Secretary of the Committee for the music group *Sempre*

Crescendo.⁷³

After graduating in 1885, van der Chijs decided to become an official in the Dutch East Indies. At that time, this was not an easy path to follow and required attending a particular training in Delft. Participants were given general knowledge about the situation and condition in the Dutch East Indies over the course of two years. Van der Chijs committed himself to the training, while simultaneously performing research in the Algemene Rijksarchief in The Hague. In 1856 he completed his dissertation on judicial history entitled, *Geschiedenis der stichting van de Vereenigde O.I. Compagnie* (History of the Founding of the Dutch East Indies Company). For this, he was declared Doctor of Law on June 12, 1856.

After graduating from the official training school in Delft in October 1857, van der Chijs and his wife left the Netherlands for the Dutch East Indies. In that time, the journey would last between eighty and one hundred days. Once settled in Batavia, van der Chijs started his career as an official for the Dutch colonial government. He was placed in the Algemene Secretarie and for this reason he was granted access to the old documents. In December 1858 van der Chijs completed a critical study of the Dutch people in Batavia. The title of his manuscript was, *Nederlanders te Jakatra* (Dutch in Jakatra).⁷⁴ He was admired and praised by many people, including the Minister of Colonies of the Dutch East Indies, N. Trakranen. Van der Chijs's dedication to his duties as a civil servant and his intellectual

⁷² 16 Jun. 2012 ,

<http://www.biografischportaal.nl/images/thumbnails/200x200_knaw_230f3f6eef6be6dfbd933dfd90b9100e_chijs_ja_van_der_165.jpg>

⁷³ Jaquet, F.G.P. and A.E.M. Ribberink, "Mr. J.A. van der Chijs ...", pp. 192

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 193

contributions were so admired that King Willem III bestowed upon him an honorary degree as *Ridder* of the *Eikenkroon* (Knight of the Oak Crown) order.

In 1858, due to the increasing number of documents about Japan and also because the Dutch colonial government was afraid that these documents would be lost, it decided to give J.A. van der Chijs an assignment to make a note from all those documents and to combine them into one theme, Japanese affairs. In the mid 1860s a manuscript was ready and finally in 1867 a work entitled *Neêrlands streven tot openstelling van Japan voor de wereldhandel* (Dutch Endeavour for the Opening of Japan to World Trade) was published by the Koninklijk Instituut voor de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde (The Royal Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies) of the Dutch East Indies. This is one the example that the Landsarchief not only preserved documents concerning the Dutch East Indies but also other countries that were involved with the Dutch East Indies or the Netherlands in some way.

In 1859, Van der Chijs was appointed as editor of government's newspaper *De Javasche Courant*. A year later, he became a member of the board and librarian of the Royal Batavian Society for Arts and Sciences and in 1861 he became editor of *Het Tijdschrift voor Indische taal-, land- en volkenkunde* (hereafter TBG) (The Journal of Dutch East Indies Language, Geography and Ethnography), the periodical which was published and belonged to the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences.⁷⁵

In 1892, van der Chijs was selected to become the first Landsarchivaris of the Landsarchief. Previously, in 1880, he was appointed as an assistant who had task as an archivist who helped H.D. Levyssohn Norman examine the documents that were being restored from their chaotic condition in the attics of the iron and grain warehouses. Levyssohn Norman and van der Chijs had already known each other before they came to the Dutch East Indies. They both had met in the Algemene Rijksarchief when they were busy conducting their personal research as students. From this, it can be said that dealing with old documents was not a new to J.A. van der Chijs and Levyssohn Norman. These experiences, along with his interest in history, later helped him to manage his position as Landsarchivaris impressively.

In 1880, J.A. van der Chijs received a new assignment to conduct an investigation with D. Koorders, N.P. van den Berg and L.W.G. de Roo on the condition of the old documents in the warehouses.⁷⁶ At this time, van der Chijs had already published several manuscripts, which were considered as landmark texts that opened the door to the old

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, pp.194

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, pp.192

archives of the state. They also were thought to have established the foundation of the development of the Landsarchief as the central archive's depot and also as scientific institution. His works include: "*Inventaris van 's Lands Archief Batavia (1602-1816)*" and "*Realia*," both published in 1882; "*Register op de Generale Resolutiën van het Kasteel Batavia (1632-1805)*" with the first and second parts were published in 1885, while the third was published in 1890. Between 1885 and 1900 van der Chijs published sixteen volume's of "*Nederlandsch-Indisch plakaatboek*" and in 1887 he published a new series entitled, "*Daghregister gehouden int Kasteel Batavia van passerende daer ter plaetse als over geheel Nederlants India*". His oeuvre includes more publications than can be named here. Van der Chijs's works were said to have had more value and included more purely historical publications than those of his successor, Dr. F. de Haan, which were considered standard works.⁷⁷ J.A. van der Chijs passed away on January 23, 1905 at the age of seventy-three.

b. Dr. F. de Haan (1905-1922)⁷⁸

Dr. Frederik de Haan was the second Landsarchivaris. He was born in Leeuwarden, the Netherlands on July 22, 1863. He attended grammar school and high school in Leeuwarden and in 1884, he decided to continue his study at Utrecht University as a student of classical literature. He graduated with outstanding results and received a *cum laude*. After graduating in 1892, de Haan decided to go to the Dutch East Indies. However, the Minister of Colonies rejected him; his medical background deemed him unfit for the tropical climate. However, at his own risk, de Haan, chose to move to the Dutch East Indies.⁷⁹

On May 31, 1892, de Haan arrived in the Dutch East Indies. He initially worked as a private teacher for the children in the Riouw's residence. Approximately three years later, he decided to move to Batavia. In 1895, after he arrived in Batavia, de Haan started his career by writing in the journal, TBG, which was published by the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences, which was still continued until 1903. Most of his articles used information that he gathered from the archives from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The archives that he used were most likely found in the Landsarchief, which was headed at that time by J.A. van der Chijs.⁸⁰

⁷⁷ Coolhaas, Prof. Dr. W. PH., "Het Landsarchief te ...", pp. 9

⁷⁸ Unfortunately it is very hard to find a picture of the F. de Haan, therefore, in his part I did not put any picture.

⁷⁹ Jaquet, F.G.P., "De eigenzinnige dr. F. de Haan, landsarchivaris 1905-1922", *Nederlandsch Archievenblad* volume 95 number, March 1st, 1991, Groningen, Erven B. van der Kamp, 1991, p. 10-22

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 10

On April 1, 1898, de Haan was appointed by the Landsarchief to inventory the documents from three directorates: the directorate of Cultures (Directorate of Plantations), the directorate of 's Lands Middelen and Domeinen (Directorate of State's Resources and Domains), and the directorate of 's Lands Producten and Civiele Magazijnen (Directorate of State's Products and Civil Warehousing). De Haan supposedly inventoried the archives due to their historical significance, but it appears that he was more concerned with his publications in the TBG journal. This can be seen in 1977 and 1978, when officers from the ANRI⁸¹ and historians from the Netherlands checked the condition of the archives that were supposedly being inventoried by F. de Haan, which were discovered to be in disarray. In December 1899, F. de Haan was released from his duties in the Landsarchief.⁸²

On February 1, 1900, Dr. F. de Haan again gained permission to access the archives in the Landsarchief. He was given another task that involved conducting research in the Landsarchief. This time he did research related with the beginning and development, the operation and the consequences of the Dutch East India Company in relation to the Preanger Regencies system. On January 1, 1902, he was dismissed from his function as a researcher in the Landsarchief but still continued collecting and writing. Dr. F. de Haan spent most of his time in the Dutch East Indies writing and in 1905 after the death of J. A. van der Chijs he was appointed as the Landsarchivaris.

Even though de Haan did not have archival studies as his educational background, he had knowledge of old documents through writing his publications. Immediately after he had been appointed as van der Chijs's successor, de Haan continued the publication of "*Dagh-register gehouden int Casteel Batavia vant passerende daer ter plaatse als over geheel Nederlands-India*".

In the period between 1907 and 1919 de Haan managed to finish four volumes of the *Dagh-register* spanning the years between 1678 and 1681, which was published by the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences. Meanwhile, he also still continued his work on the *Preanger*. His publication entitled, "*Priangan; de Preanger-Regentschappen onder het Nederlandsch bestuur tot 1811*," which was divided into eight volumes in four bands, were published between 1910 and 1912 by the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences. For these works he was made as an honorary member of the Royal Batavian Society.⁸³

⁸¹ Name of today's archival institution in Indonesia. Former Landsarchief.

⁸² *Ibid.*, pp. 10

⁸³ *Ibid.*, pp. 11-12

Famous works of de Haan include the anniversary edition of “*Oud-Batavia*”, and “*Uit oud-Batavia; de Portugeesche Buitenkerk (1898)*”, among others. His works are still used by many historians and researchers who are writing on Batavia and also by those who want to study the history of the Dutch East Indies during the VOC’s period.

Even though he was a very loyal and dedicated person, it seemed that some considered him a poor Landsarchivaris. In 1918 and 1919, it was Ch. F. A. Beretta who criticized Dr. F. de Haan in the *Nederlandsch Archievenblad*.⁸⁴ Beretta complained that De Haan was more a compiler of historical publications, who only focussed on his own works and neglected his function as the Landsarchivaris. Beretta stated that although de Haan’s works were praiseworthy, his activity in the historical field was obtained through the disparagement of his archivist function. He did not assist the researchers or the public that visited the Landsarchief in order to gather information, as was stated in his job description. He seemed to retreat from the public in order to write his own works without interruption from others. Further, Beretta compared the situation of the Landsarchief with the archival institution in the Netherlands. In the Netherlands, researchers were more easily given access to the archives and an archivist would assist them. In addition, Beretta mentioned that during his weekly visits to the Landsarchief of the Dutch East Indies for two years (1916-1917), he only managed to peruse the archives a few times, meaning that he did not manage to get a lot of information.⁸⁵

With regard to the criticisms presented by Beretta, it is my opinion that the conditions of the archival institutions in the Dutch East Indies and the Netherlands at that time were incomparable. It is important to note that the archivists of these institutions had different main tasks. In the Netherlands, the archivist helped the historian, researcher or visitor by providing information and delivering the right materials that they sought; meanwhile, in the Dutch East Indies, the archivist was expected to conduct research using the information from the archives in the Landsarchief and publish the results. Service was a greater priority for the archivist in the Netherlands, whereas conducting research for original publications was of greater concern for the archivist in the Dutch East Indies.

Since the Landsarchivaris had access to the archives, it was easy for him to utilize archival material. By publishing, people could more or less know about what kind of information was hiding in the old documents. In addition, there were not many people in the

⁸⁴ Nederlandsch Archievenblad is a journal for people who dealt with archives, including archivist professionals.

⁸⁵ Beretta, Ch. F.A, “Een kijkje in Indische archieven”, *Nederlandsch Archievenblad*, volume 27th 1918-1919, Groningen, Erven B. van der Kamp, 1919.p. 56-59

Dutch East Indies interested in conducting historical research themselves. Since access to the archives was limited, publications written by informed individuals with access were very important for educating the general public.

It appears that Ch. F.A. Beretta's scathing comments were not the only criticisms that Dr. F. de Haan received. Approximately a year earlier, in 1917, P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins also criticized de Haan in the monthly journal the *Maandblad van het Genealogisch heraldisch Genootschap 'De Nederlandsche Leeuw'* 1917. P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins directed his criticism toward the condition of the Landsarchief's collections, stating that the archives were waiting to become extinct. In his opinion, the location of the Landsarchief, which was at that time located in Weltevreden a few meters from a kitchen of the Hotel *der Nederlanden*, was a hazardous to the archives. He argued that the climate and the surrounding environment could lead to the old archives destruction by all kinds of creatures. Dr. F. de Haan gave his response in the same journal.⁸⁶ He wrote that one of the factors that damaged the archives was Bloys van Treslong Prins himself; he stated that Bloys van Treslong Prins had, since October 1915, come to the Landsarchief so frequently that many of the archives were damaged by overuse.

However, the criticism did not stop there. In addition, E.C. Godée Molsbergen and F.W. Stapel also found F. de Haan's role as Landsarchivaris worrisome. Molsbergen was concerned about the condition of the Landsarchief at the hands of de Haan. De Haan was known to have referred to the Landsarchief as an archival nuisance. Meanwhile, F.W. Stapel, who at that time wanted to conduct research for his dissertation, decided to go and meet F. de Haan. However, instead of receiving assistance, he received a rejection from de Haan. Further, he mentioned that de Haan was not a very sociable person and that his deafness made it difficult to communicate with him. According to Stapel, it was no wonder that many people's first visit to F. de Haan would also be the last.⁸⁷

Due to a lot of criticism, in 1919 there was already a discussion about adding another staff member to the Landsarchief and in 1921 the Governor General of Dutch East Indies or Algemene Secretaris decided to add a new function. This function would support the Landsarchivaris exercise his tasks. The person later would become Adjunct-Landsarchivaris and after F. de Haan retired, this assistant would succeed him and take over the position as the Landsarchivaris. For this process, they also asked advice from the Netherlands. They

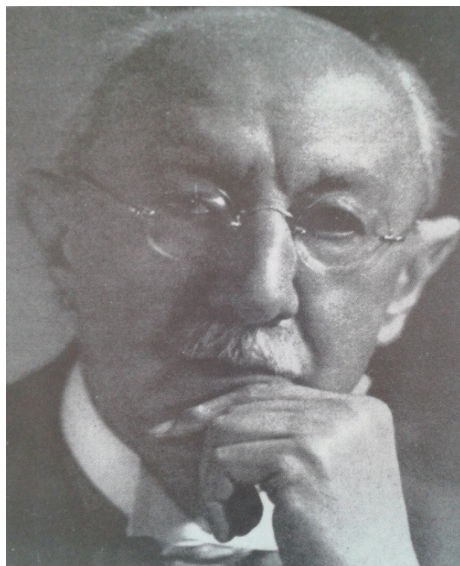
⁸⁶ It was not clear when exactly F. de Haan gave his comment in the journal of the *Nederlandsche Leeuw* but it was probably not long after Bloys van Treslong Prins criticized him.

⁸⁷ Jaquet, F.G.P., "De eigenzinnige dr. F. de Haan, landsarchivaris 1905-1922", *Nederlandsch Archievenblad* volume 95 number, March 1st, 1991, Groningen, Erven B. van der Kamp, 1991, p. 13

asked advice from people who were competent in the archival work and also in historical studies especially in colonial history. But the plan was stopped for an unknown reason and on December 1921. The Governor General of the Dutch East Indies gave permission for F. de Haan to temporarily have his duties at the Landsarchief. F. de Haan departed for Europe for ten months and during his leave, he asked for honourable discharge. He was officially discharged as the Landsarchivaris in the mid of 1923, which as was declared by the *Koninklijk Besluit* (Royal Decree). He retired in the age of sixty.⁸⁸

In addition, his deafness, which made it difficult for others to communicate with him, also likely played a role in F. de Haan's stepping down and his replacement by E.C. Godée Molsbergen. On the other hand, in spite of the critics and his deafness, de Haan held the longest tenure of the preceding Landsarchivaris of the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies.

c. Dr. E.C. Godée Molsbergen (1922-1937)⁸⁹



Everhardus Cornelis Godée Molsbergen was born on September 18, 1875 in Utrecht, the Netherlands. He was the third Landsarchivaris and the successor of Dr. F. de Haan. However, before he came to the Dutch East Indies, he spent most of his life teaching history in the universities and schools in the Netherlands.

E.C. Godée Molsbergen graduated from the Rijksuniversiteit in Leiden. After he graduated, he became a director of the Christelijke HBS (Christian High School) in Rotterdam. Later he became a professor of history at Victoria College in Stellenbosch while simultaneously joining Kaapsche Archives Commission. He then worked as a private tutor in colonial history at the Gemeenteuniversiteit in Amsterdam. From 1913 to 1916, J.E. Heeres, who at that time held a position in the Tweede Kamer, hired Godée Molsbergen as a lecturer in colonial history at the

⁸⁸ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummertoeegang 2.21.281..04, inventarisnummer 46.p.45.

⁸⁹ Jaquet, Frits, "E. du Perron en het Landsarchief." *Indische Letteren*, vol. 7, no.3, September 1992, Leiden, Werkgroep Indisch-Nederlandse Letterkunde, 1992, pp.116

University of Leiden. Between 1916 and 1918, he worked as a professor in colonial history in Ghent, Belgium.⁹⁰

Godée Molsbergen was married to a Dutch woman and had a son, but the marriage was not going smoothly; they divorced when they were still living in Ghent. Therefore, when he came to the Dutch East Indies in 1919, he came alone. On March 5, 1919, Molsbergen became a Dutch language teacher in the Koning Willem III high school in Batavia. He also taught Dutch at the girls-HBS of the Carpentier Alting Stichting (Carpentier Alting Foundation).

Based on the *Indisch* decision on August 17, 1922 No.42 and decision No. 52 per August 26, 1923, E.C. Godée Molsbergen was appointed as the Landsarchivaris, replacing Dr. F. de Haan. Under the guidance of the Godée Molsbergen in 1925, the Landsarchief was moved to the old building in the Molenvliet. E.C. Godée Molsbergen exercised his function as the Landsarchivaris pembamca the leave of F. de Haan to Europe. At that time in the Landsarchief there only a *commies* (clerk) A.F.H. Resner and also an *oppasser* (caretaker) who worked there.⁹¹

Due to the reorganisation of the Landsarchief, the Dutch colonial government decided to appoint an assistant to help with the Landsarchivaris' *tasks*. The function named Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. Molsbergen proposed Wilhelmina Fruin-Mees for the position. Wilhelmina Fruin-Mees was a colleague of Molsbergen in the girls-HBS of the Carpentier Alting Stichting (Carpentier Alting Foundation). She was also a daughter-in-law of R. Fruin, who served as the Algemene Rijksarchivaris of the ARA in the Netherlands at that time.

This proposal was rejected because Wilhelmina Fruin-Mees was a woman. In the opinion of the Dutch colonial government, it would be quite troublesome to appoint a woman as an Adjunct-Landsarchivaris because women typically married and had children, and therefore could not focus on their work. In 1925, based on the *Indisch* decision on December 21, the Dutch colonial government appointed P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins as the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris.

Surprisingly, in 1928, when Godée Molsbergen still held the position of Landsarchivaris, a woman was hired to work in the Landsarchief: Maria Henriëtte Philippine Callenfels. It is not clear why the Dutch colonial government finally decided to let a woman work in the Landsarchief. Additional information about this Callenfels will be discussed

⁹⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 115

⁹¹ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummertoeegang 2.21.281..04, inventarisnummer 46.p.47.

further in a separate paragraph following the discussion of the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris position.

Based on their functions, it was expected that the Landsarchivaris and the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris would cooperate for the benefit of the Landsarchief, but unfortunately, the relationship between E.C. Godée Molsbergen with P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins was not a harmonious one. The conflict started in 1926, when Molsbergen had taken a four month journey to the Moluccas in order to conduct archival research in Amboina and Ternate. This large study was the first research that was conducted by the Landsarchivaris in the outer islands of the Dutch East Indies. In addition, Molsbergen also made a trip abroad in order to conduct an archival research; one of the countries that he visited was Ceylon. After he finished conducting research in the outer islands, he decided to leave for Europe and was absent for over a year. During his absence, he was replaced by P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins, who discovered a number of shortcomings in the management of the Landsarchief.

After filling the position of Landsarchivaris, Treslong Prins reported the managerial flaws he noticed to his superior, the Algemene Secretaris.⁹² On March 9, 1927, one year after becoming the deputy archivist, Treslong Prins sent a letter to Erdbrink, the Algemene Secretaris. In the letter, Treslong Prins stated that Molsbergen did not perform his function as the Landsarchivaris very well: he did not arrange the archives that he was supposed to organize; he was considered to be unproductive; he went to the Landsarchief only for one hour a day; he copied very few archives and left much of the responsibility of organizing the archives to Resner, the commies of the Landsarchief at that time who was assisted by the caretaker of the Landsarchief; and Molsbergen spent much of his time out drinking, therefore, when he came to the Landsarchief the air smelled of alcohol. It was generally known that Molsbergen had a drinking problem. Further Treslong Prins explained in his letter that after Molsbergen married again in 1925, most of his time was spent in one the annexes of the Landsarchief, in the room where he always read aloud for his wife about historical works of the Dutch East Indies.⁹³ Treslong Prins also claimed that the historical knowledge that was possessed by Molsbergen was gained from reading books and not by doing research. The letter led to a local investigation initiated by the Government Secretary.⁹⁴

Later on, it was alleged that P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins sent the letter because he was eager to become the Landsarchivaris. In his letter, Treslong Prins openly stated that he

⁹² *Ibid.*, pp. 50-51

⁹³ By the time the Landsarchief was moved to Reiners de Klerk's house, the Landsarchivaris stayed in one of the annexes of the Landsarchief's building.

⁹⁴ Jaquet, Frits, "E. du Perron en ...", pp. 119-123

was the more competent person compared with Molsbergen. Although he was not a historian, his knowledge about genealogy was also very substantial. Not to mention that eighty out of one hundred requests (for information) in the Landsarchief was related with genealogy. Further he also explained that he had experience conducting research and that he made use of the archives in the Landsarchief. He wrote a lot of articles and a lot of his works were published and were used by other authors not only in the Dutch East Indies but also other countries such as Germany. In other words, he tried to convince the Algemene Secretaris, Erdbrink that he was a suitable person to hold a position as the Landsarchivaris replacing E.C. Godée Molsbergen who was not well-suited for the job Landsarchivaris.⁹⁵

As a response of Treslong Prins's letter, on May 27, 1927, Molsbergen sent a letter to the Algemene Secretaris. In that letter he tried to defend himself from all accusations. Unfortunately, this letter could not be located, but document related with the steps that were taken by the Algemene Secretaris to solve this conflict was found. That document contains information concerning the questions that were asked of Godée Molsbergen. From the document it was revealed that not only did he have a conflict with Treslong Prins but there was also another complaint against him concerning the use of the budget for office expenses for the Landsarchief. It was mentioned that f 800 of f1000 of the annual amount of the office expenses (the Landsarchief) in 1924 and 1925 was used by Molsbergen for the acquisition of the books from his private library. None of the *Landsarchivarissen* owned a library but he defended himself saying that another Landsarchivaris he knew also had his private library and did also the same thing as he did. He also claimed that he did not take any advantage from this; he even put a low tax upon those books. Further he mentioned that he was willing to give the money that he spent for the books back. In addition, he also denied Treslong Prins' claim about spending so little time in the Landsarchief.⁹⁶

The Algemene Secretaris considered that the purchase of books from Molsbergen's private collection/library for the library of the Landsarchief without asking permission from his superior, the Algemene Secretaris and the Governor General was more for his own advantage than for the benefit of the Landsarchief. Not to mention that the Molsbergen also made a memorial book for the firm Oger Frères for f 150, something that someone could never expect from a Landsarchivaris to do such thing. After doing examination, in July 1927, the Algemene Secretarie decided to establish a commission to supervise the activity of the

⁹⁵ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummer toegang 2.21.281.04, inventarisnummer 12.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.*

Landsarchief, including the activity of all staff members. The name of the commission was the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief (as mentioned in the previous subchapter).⁹⁷

The internal investigation of the Landsarchief resulted in several consequences that affected the organization. First, a supervisory commission was established under the name of the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief. Second, Molsbergen received a warning and was ordered to create an instruction manual for how to manage the Landsarchief in consultation with the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief. The draft of instruction manual was completed several years later, in 1930.⁹⁸

In mid-1932, due to the economic crisis in the Dutch East Indies, the Landsarchivaris, Dr. Godée Molsbergen was put to work as a teacher in the school K.W.III (Koning Willem III) in Batavia.⁹⁹ This step was taken because the Algemene Secretarie had to eliminate spending in its department and decided to close the Landsarchief temporarily. The Dutch colonial government asked the Director of Education to help Molsbergen find a teaching position in Dutch and history. It was required that he stay in Batavia in order to continue devoting a small portion of his time to managing the Landsarchief.¹⁰⁰

In 1935, E.C. Godée Molsbergen was almost sixty years old, which meant he would retire as a teacher and focus his full attention on the Landsarchief. However, in 1936, Molsbergen wanted to repatriate to the Netherlands. For this reason, the Dutch colonial government started to look for a successor. Due to the years of economic depression, the Dutch colonial government tried to find the cheapest solution. Since hiring someone from the Netherlands was very expensive and not without risk, it was better to select someone from within the Dutch East Indies. Of course, this was not an easy task. The Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief tried to find a volunteer but did not succeed.

Moreover, in 1930, Prof. Colenbrander gave his opinion to the *Commissariaat voor Indische Zaken* (Commissioner for Dutch East Indies Affairs) that the new Landsarchivaris did not necessarily need to possess a degree in Dutch archival studies, as was stipulated by the commission. He reasoned that such a diploma was given to those who wanted a career in archival management in the Netherlands, and as such, were not interested in a position in the Dutch East Indies. It was better that the next Landsarchivaris possessed knowledge about

⁹⁷ *Ibid.*

⁹⁸ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummer toegang 2.21.281.04, inventarisnummer 46.p.51

⁹⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 57

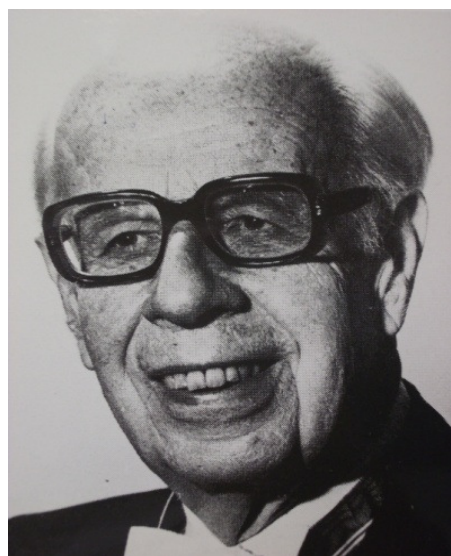
¹⁰⁰ "Sluiting Lands-Archief. Dr. Godee Molsbergen wordt Leraar", *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*, 23-04-1932, 3 May 2012, < <http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010229474%3Ampg21%3Apg005%3Aa0137>>

seventeenth century language and writing, the establishment of the East Indies Company and also had a general knowledge of the colonial history of the Netherlands, etc.

Meanwhile, driven by many considerations, the Algemene Secretarie decided to appoint the Adjunct-referendaris the Algemene Secretarie to replace E.C. Godée Molsbergen. In 1935, the first Governor Secretary announced to the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief that the Dutch colonial government had decided to appoint F.R.J. Verhoeven as the next Landsarchivaris.¹⁰¹

After his retirement and return to the Netherlands, E.C. Godée Molsbergen became a member of the Nederlandsche Vereniging Archivarissen (Netherlands Association of Archivists). Molsbergen passed away on March 8, 1940 at the age of sixty-four.¹⁰²

d. **Dr. F.R.J. Verhoeven** (1937-1942)



Frans Rijndert Johan Verhoeven was born in Magelang, Indonesia (at that time still Dutch East Indies), on October 22, 1905.¹⁰³ He started his career as a civil servant in the Dutch East Indies in 1930 as the administrative official of the Binnenlandsch Bestuur. He was the fourth and also the last Landsarchivaris. He had been selected to replace E.C. Godée Molsbergen in 1935; however, he officially began his function as the Landsarchivaris in 1937. He served in this position until the Japanese occupation in 1942 or 1943.

It is not clear why the Dutch colonial government appointed F.R.J. Verhoeven to become the successor to Molsbergen. Most likely, his experience dealing with the early nineteenth-century archives and his educational background contributed to the decision. F.R.J. Verhoeven studied *Indology* in Leiden University with Dutch East Indies history as his

¹⁰¹ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummer toegang 2.21.281.04, inventarisnummer 46.p. 50-57

¹⁰² *Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië, 's Lands Archief, tijdschrift/reeks1940*, Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1941.p.5

¹⁰³ 9 May 2012, <<http://www.dwc.knaw.nl/biografie/pmknaw/?pagetype=authorDetail&ald=PE00003489>>

focus. He also chose comparative colonial history as an elective. It seemed that he was an ideal for the position.¹⁰⁴

No different from his predecessors, F.R.J. Verhoeven also published many of his works in cooperation with the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences. He wrote several publications related with the history and the development of the Landsarchief including the history of his predecessors. His predecessor, Prof. Dr. E. C. Godée Molsbergen requested that he write a history of the *Indische archief* from 1816 until 1854, in order to continue Molsbergen's own unfinished work.¹⁰⁵ Verhoeven also held an important position as the Chairman of the history department in the Royal Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences, although, it is not very clear when exactly he served that function.¹⁰⁶

Since Verhoeven became the Landsarchivaris, the Landsarchief demonstrated its function as a scientific institution more clearly. Verhoeven published a yearly report, as had been done under E.C. Godée Molsbergen, in which he reported on an annual expedition that introduced his institution to Dutch East Indies society. Publicizing the role of the Landsarchief was important because the archive was not well known on the archipelago. On May 30, 1929 the newspaper *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*, reported that many of people who lived in the Dutch East Indies did not even know where the Landsarchief was located or what tasks its archivists performed. In addition, many people had never gone inside the Landsarchief building.¹⁰⁷

During Verhoeven's years as the Landarchivaris, the Landsarchief opened an information service available to visitors and researchers, which was divided into three divisions. Those three divisions were *historische voorlichting* (historical information), *genealogische voorlichting* (genealogical information), and *historische documentatie en classificatie* (historical documentation and classification).¹⁰⁸

F.R.J. Verhoeven only held the position of Landsarchivaris for five years. It was the shortest period of any *Landsarchivarissen*. In 1942, while Japanese military forces entered Batavia and occupied the country, Verhoeven was briefly able to continue his work as the Landsarchivaris under supervision of a Japanese military officer. However, in 1943,

¹⁰⁴ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummer toegang 2.21.281.04, inventarisnummer 46.p. 57-59

¹⁰⁵ Verhoeven, Dr. F. R. J., "Geschiedenis van het Indische Archiefwezen van 1816-1854", *Tijdschrift voor Indische Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen Deel LXXX, 1940. p. 425

¹⁰⁶ Verhoeven, F.R.J., *Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië*, Batavia, 1941.

¹⁰⁷ "Het Lands-archief te Batavia", *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*, 30-05-1929, 24 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010221481%3Ampg21%3Ap009%3Aa0139>>

¹⁰⁸ *Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië, 's Lands Archief, tijdschrift/reeks* 1940. p. 13-14.

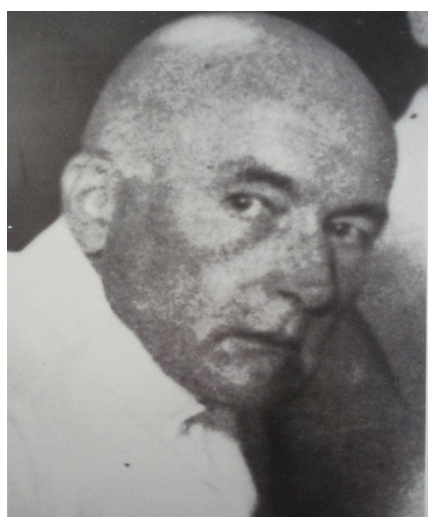
Verhoeven and a few other European staff from the Landsarchief were caught by the Japanese military. Verhoeven and his Adjunct-Landsarchivaris were imprisoned. Only a few staff members, most of whom were Indonesian, were able to stay and keep the Landsarchief open and operating.

During the Japanese occupation, most of the European staff from all the incarcerated imprisoned as prisoners of war. Meanwhile, most of the other European people were placed into internment camps. Verhoeven managed to survive until Indonesian independence; however, some of his colleagues did not survive due to the mistreatment by the Japanese military officers.

F.R.J. Verhoeven was a dedicated person, although he still received much criticism due to the policy that he imposed when he served as the *Landsarchivaris*. The criticisms that he received came from Dutch historians and authors including Prof. Dr. I.J. Brugmans, L. de Jong, and Jacob Zwaan. Their particular criticisms can be found in their personal books. The response from Verhoeven can be found in his personal archive which is under custody of the Nationaal Archief of the Netherlands. Most of the critics were concerned with the same document, called *Assal Oesoel*. Verhoeven was considered guilty for constructing the *Assal Oesoel* based on the false data. More on this debate will be discussed in chapter III.

Adjunct-Landsarchivaris

a. P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins (1926-1931)¹⁰⁹



Paul Constant Bloys van Treslong Prins was born in Delft, the Netherlands on June 7, 1873. He was a lawyer by occupation. In 1902, he was married to Johanna Catharina de Savornin Lohman. However, when he came to the Dutch East Indies in 1908, he did not bring his wife with him. Bloys van Treslong Prins was a passionate genealogist, which was why he was appointed as the first Adjunct-Landsarchivaris.¹¹⁰

In 1926, when E.C. Godée Molsbergen made a journey to Moluccas to conduct archival research, P.C.

¹⁰⁹ The picture was taken from *Indische Letteren*, zevende jaargang.no.3, September 1992, Leiden, Werkgroep Indisch-Nederlandse Letterkunde, 1992, p. 118

¹¹⁰ Jaquet, Frits, "E. du Perron en ...", pp. 119

Bloys van Treslong Prins replaced him as the Landsarchivaris. During Molsbergen's absence, Bloys van Treslong Prins made many changes to the building where the Landsarchief was located. He decorated the building and he even decorated the backyard and opened an openlucht museum (open air museum). Unfortunately, E.C. Godée Molsbergen did not like these changes, which triggered a conflict between them (more about this conflict is discussed in the section on E.C. Godée Molsbergen).¹¹¹

Bloys van Treslong Prins's passion for genealogy helped him perform his job as an Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. One of his most significant accomplishments was setting up the Landsarchief's collection of genealogical documents. It appears that those particular documents became an important tool for research on gender and genealogy. Bloys van Treslong Prins paid a lot of attention to the genealogy collection. During his tenure as the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris, he managed to compile 400,000 genealogy cards. The genealogy cards that Bloys van Treslong Prins managed to compile were particularly important for those in the Dutch East Indies who conducted research for personal reasons especially in 1940s, when the Japanese occupied the Dutch East Indies. The benefits of these genealogical documents will be discussed further in chapter III.

After his retirement, the collection was completed and cared for by Miss M.H.Ph. Callenfels, whom Mr. P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins later married.¹¹² He also published a few books related to the subject of genealogy. One of his published works is "*Genealogische en Heraldische gedenkwaardigheden betreffende Europeanen op Java*".¹¹³

Evidently, these genealogy cards and documents were of interest to many people. Those with a particularly keen interest established heraldic genealogical circles in Batavia, of which Bloys van Treslong Prins became the chairman. The association *De Indische Navoscher* issued a magazine, which published the collection of genealogical records. There was much interest generated in the Netherlands and also in Germany, which was understandable due to the relatively large number of company employees and soldiers of German descent.¹¹⁴

¹¹¹ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer* 46.p. 50-51

¹¹² Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer* 45

¹¹³ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer* 32.

¹¹⁴ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer* 45

It appears that the Commissie van Toezicht op het Landsarchief closely monitored all activity that occurred in the Landsarchief and after performing an investigation, according to the *Indisch besluit* of June 1, 1931, P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins was honourably discharged from his function as the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris.¹¹⁵ He was fired because he had taken approximately six hundred stamps from the archives. Not to mention, he also had an affair with a co-worker in the Landsarchief despite the fact that he had a wife in the Netherlands.

Surprisingly, in the newspaper *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië* which was published on January 14, 1931, stated that since four months prior to the decision to remove Bloys van Treslong Prins, the Minister of Colonies already proposed to add new staff to the Landsarchief. The colonial government had already decided as early as the preceding September to appoint a new Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. The Minister of Colonies proposed Mr. H. Kroeskamp as the next Adjunct-Landsarchivaris.

H. Kroeskamp studied in the Rijks University in Leiden. He planned his trip to Batavia with all expenses paid by the Dutch colonial government.¹¹⁶ The fact that the preparations had already been made indicate that Kroeskamp was set to replace Bloys van Treslong Prins as the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris before the resignation was made official.

Approximately one month later, on February 3, 1931, *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië* reported that after reading the department report of the *Volksraad*, many high ranking members expressed their astonishment over the fact that despite unfavourable conditions, there was a proposal to add new staff at the Landsarchief. They questioned whether the appointment of a second Adjunct-Landsarchivaris could not wait until the next budget. In addition, they also were upset to learn that the person to fill the position has already been chosen. Moreover, they questioned whether or not it was possible to find a person to fill in the position in the Dutch East Indies, since the cost to import an official from the Netherlands was very expensive. These questions were important at a time when the economic situation was unstable.¹¹⁷

Few days later, it was decided that the appointment of the new Adjunct-Landsarchivaris would be postponed until the next budget. But unfortunately the economic conditions in the Dutch East Indies took a turn for the worse, and after Bloys van Treslong

¹¹⁵ Jaquet, Frits, "E. du Perron en ...", pp. 123

¹¹⁶ "Stadsnieuws. Batavia, 14 january. Een Nieuwe. Adjunct-landsarchivaris", *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*, 14-01-1931, 15 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010229090%3Ampg21%3Ap005%3Aa0092>>

¹¹⁷ "Personeel's Landsarchief" (on the website the title is "Personeel's Landsarphief"), *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*, 03-02-1931, 23 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010229107%3Ampg21%3Ap005%3Aa0106>>

Prins was discharged, the position of the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris remained empty for several years. In 1938, the Dutch colonial government appointed a new Adjunct-Landsarchivaris who began his first day of work on January 1, 1939. The name of the new Adjunct-Landsarchivaris was Vermeulen.¹¹⁸

b. Dr. J. Th. Vermeulen (1939-1942)

Dr. J. Th. Vermeulen arrived in the Dutch East Indies in October 1938 to serve as the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. He was scheduled to begin on January 1, 1939. While he was waiting for his assignment he was given a positionI in the Algemene Secretarie in Buitenzorg.¹¹⁹ As the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris, his was required to help the Landsarchivaris with his tasks. Vermeulen was in charge of the old Dutch East Indies government archives from 1590 until the middle of 1811. He was also responsible for the historical-topography photos and collections of pictures or prints.¹²⁰

It should be mentioned that after 1936, the Landsarchief underwent an internal reorganization. They decided to divide the archival collection, which had reached roughly 6 kilometres of material. First, the old archives from the year 1596 until mid-1811 were under the management of the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. Second, the new government's archives after the middle of 1811 were under the management of the Landsarchivaris. Furthermore, in 1940, the collections of archives since 1811 were greatly expanded when the government transferred its archives from 1850 until 1880 to the Landsarchief.¹²¹

After only three years, Verhoeven's career as Adjunct-Landsarchivaris was cut short. In 1942, when the Japanese military forces occupied the Dutch East Indies, Vermeulen was most likely captured by the Japanese since he was European. He was most likely imprisoned with F.R.J. Verhoeven and Mrs. Bloys van Treslong Prins.

¹¹⁸ "Het Lands-Archief. Géén nieuwe Adjunct-Archivaris", *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*, 13-02-1931, 24 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010229116%3Ampg21%3Ap005%3Aa0110>>

¹¹⁹ Jaarveslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië over 1938, Landsdrukkerij, Batavia, 1939.p.7

¹²⁰ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Algemeen Rijksarchief, 1800-1966, nummer toegang 2.14.03, inventarisnummer 343

¹²¹ Verhoeven, F.R.J., *Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië 1892-1940*, Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1943.p.9

*Chartermeeesteres*¹²²

Maria Henriëtte Philippine Callenfels (Mrs. M.H.Ph. Bloys van Treslong Prins-Callenfels)

In this subchapter, I decided to also mention the Chartermeeesteres at the Landsarchief. I consider this important because despite of the objections to a woman working in the Landsarchief, there was in fact a woman who held an official position there.¹²³ Later, in the 1940s, there was more than one woman employed in the Landsarchief. Based on my findings so far, the highest rank that a woman could reach in the Landsarchief was the position of Chartermeeesteres.

Chartermeeesteres is a function equivalent to a deputy archivist and Maria Henriëtte Philippine Callenfels completed these duties as early as 1928. She was responsible in monitoring the applications for rooms besides the reading rooms and the daily management of the genealogical records.¹²⁴

Callenfels began to work in the Landsarchief in 1928, when the position of the Landsarchivaris was held by E.C. Godée Molsbergen. She had an affair with P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins, the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris who was already married at that time to a woman in the Netherlands. Their affair was quite long, from 1928 until 1937. On September 29, 1937, fourteen days after his wife, passed away, Bloys van Treslong Prins decided to marry Maria Henriëtte Philippine Callenfels.

After her husband was discharged, Maria Henriëtte Philippine Callenfels (or Mrs. M.H.Ph. Bloys van Treslong Prins-Callenfels) continued his work, arranging and completing the genealogy collections based on his instructions. She was given the responsibility of handling the genealogical information service of the Landsarchief. In 1943, during the Japanese occupation, she was caught by the Japanese military, along with other Europeans who worked in the Landsarchief. They were moved to internment camps, based on orders from Tokyo. Mrs. M.H.Ph. Bloys van Treslong Prins-Callenfels did not survive the camp. The information service for the genealogy collections was officially ended with her and Verhoeven's arrests.¹²⁵

¹²² Chartermeeesteres is an officer with a function as deputy archivist which was held by a woman. *Chartermeeester* is an officer with a function as deputy archivist which was held by a man.

¹²³ More detail can be seen in the section on of E.C. Godée Molsbergen.

¹²⁴ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Algemeen Rijksarchief, 1800-1966, nummer toegang 2.14.03, inventarisnummer 343

¹²⁵ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummer toegang: 2.21.281.04, inventarisnummer 45

From all the explanations above it became clearer that the establishment of the Landsarchief had gone through many stages. In the first place a lot of parties were not sure about the importance of establishing an archival institution; it was considered a waste to preserve the old documents would cost a lot of money. This can be seen when the Dutch colonial government sent some of the old documents to the Netherlands. However, later on, after there was awareness of the use of the colonial archives not only for the Netherlands but also for the Dutch East Indies, the Dutch colonial government decided to stop sending archives to the Netherlands and decided to establish an archival institution in the Dutch East Indies. Finally in 1892 an archival institution was established. In the beginning the purpose of the establishment of this institution was only to arrange those archives in order to give general perspective to the Dutch colonial government; to make those archives became accessible for the Dutch East Indies government for the benefit of the administration. Over time, the purpose of the Landsarchief changed. It became a scientific institution that gave information to its users regarding history and genealogy information.

In order to manage an archival institution, an official was needed. In 1892, the Dutch colonial government appointed a Landsarchivaris to exercise archival work in the Landsarchief. There were four *Landsarchivarissen* in the period between 1892 until 1942/1943. Each of those *Landsarchivarissen* and other officials played an important role in the archival development in the Dutch East Indies. The first Landsarchivaris, Dr. J. A. van der Chijs, made inventories for the old documents which made them accessible, marking the beginning of the archival development. Many historians said that his achievements in the archival work were difficult to compare to his successors. However, it did not mean that his successors made less of efforts for the Landsarchief. Dr. F. de Haan for example published many of works concerning the history of the Dutch East Indies and his works are still being used by the present scholars and historians. Dr. E.C. Godée Molsbergen made several excursions, not only in the islands that belonged to the Dutch East Indies but also to foreign countries in order to conduct archival research. From these journeys he made a list of archives that were found in the outer islands. In addition, with the help of his assistant, Bloys van Treslong Prins they started to focus on the archives that related with genealogy. Treslong Prins made an extensive collection of genealogy cards which were very useful for the genealogy research. Moreover, Molsbergen also tried to make Landsarchief more open to the public by having expositions, which became a regular activity. In addition, during his period of service, there was a plan to build an open air museum in the back yard of the Landsarchief.

However, it seemed that the plan was stopped (due to an unknown reason). During Verhoeven's service as the Landsarchivaris, the Landsarchief had shown a lot of improvement in the archival system. The Landsarchief opened an information service not only for historical information but also genealogical information. It started to employ more people that helped with the development of the archival work. The most important role of the Landsarchief was shown in the 1940s, during the Japanese occupation when the Landsarchief emerged genealogical documents that saved a lot of Indo-Dutch people from the internment camps.

Despite the achievement of the *Landsarchivarissen*, there was also negative side of their work. Although it was difficult to find criticism of J.A. van der Chijs, other *Landsarchivarissen*, were scrutinized. Allegedly, F. de Haan was too busy with his works and closed himself off from others. The knowledge that he had about the Landsarchief's contents, where the documents were preserved and located, he kept to himself. He was not helpful to the visitors of the Landsarchief.

Meanwhile during Molsbergen's time as the Landsarchivaris, he had a conflict with his Adjunct-Landsarchivaris, Bloys van Treslong Prins. Due to all the criticisms toward F. de Haan and the conflict between Molsbergen with Treslong Prins, the Algemene Secretaris and Governor General of the Dutch East Indies decided to do an internal reorganisation of the Landsarchief. This meant that the Landsarchivaris had important role on the deciding the policy of the Dutch East Indies archival institution. The reorganization influenced the improvement of the operational archival system of the Landsarchief.

By the time Verhoeven held the position of the Landsarchivaris, the archival system of the Landsarchief was getting better. The Landsarchief had shown its function as a scientific institution that gave information for not only for scholars or historians but also for ordinary people. The Landsarchief played a very important role when during the Japanese occupation through its genealogical cards. However, years after the Japanese occupation, Verhoeven as the Landsarchivaris was highly criticized by many authors and historians. Verhoeven was accused of having forged the genealogical document called the *Assal Oesoel*. However, despite of all the negative comments about Verhoeven, it is this author's opinion that these misdeeds are not important when compared with positive contribution he made in the Dutch East Indies.

Chapter III. The Landsarchief: Its Role and Its Collections

III.1. The Role of the Landsarchief for the Dutch East Indies Government

In the beginning, many people in the Dutch East Indies questioned the significance of the establishment of the Landsarchief at what was anticipated to be a very high cost. Therefore, the proposal calling for the creation of this institution was delayed and pending for several times. The first party that encouraged the creation of this institution came from the Ministry of Colonies, the Royal Batavian Society for Arts and Sciences, etc. However, after several attempts without any results, the impetus came from many people who were not part of the administration, but who understood the importance of the establishment of the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies.

In the period of the Dutch East India Company (VOC), the reason their staff kept the archives was obvious: it was important for the company. However, during the early period of the Dutch colonial government in the Dutch East Indies, it was less clear how these old documents, which were inherited from previous administration, could be of use. Archives can be used as legitimization of power of the ruling administration. There were many archives from the period of the VOC, the British interregnum and also the Dutch East Indies government that concerned border treaties with other countries. From these archives the ruling administration could confirm *de facto* and *de jure* regarding the territorial borders of the Dutch East Indies.

After the Dutch East Indies was taken over from the VOC, the Dutch colonial government started to exercise its power and tried to expand its territory in the Dutch East Indies by making treaties with the local rulers (local kings) and also making treaties with other countries. For example, there are many documents that concerned contracts of power between the Dutch colonial government and the local rulers. In addition, there are also documents concerning the border treaties between the Dutch colonial government with other countries; for example border or territorial treaty between the Dutch colonial government with the British regarding Borneo Island.

Due to the haphazard organisation of the Dutch colonial government, many of the old documents were damaged and missing, although, many of them were also missing because

the previous administration had decided to burn parts of the old archives, as mentioned in the previous chapter. Moreover, in the 1800s, and probably long before that period, many officials in the Dutch East Indies stole old documents to use in their own archives. Many of these stolen documents were found for sale by the publishers the Netherlands. Many of the colonial official's documents were regularly printed in magazines and brochures. Time after time inscriptions were issued to prevent the old documents being claimed by other parties as their own and also to prevent the unauthorized publication of government documents.¹²⁶

Regarding the old documents stolen by the government officials, in 1854 the Netherlands government imposed a regulation. As stated in the Royal decision of January 13, 1854, No. 64, the State had an exclusive right to ownership of all papers and documents that belonged to or were included in the government's archives; therefore, it was in the public interest to take action to enforce property rights in the colonies and protect possessions of the (Dutch) empire in other continents. This regulation consists of eight articles which can be seen in the appendix III. Along with Regulation No. 64, the Netherlands government gave recommendations to the Minister of Colonies to take actions concerning the old government's documents.

The first article of the aforementioned regulation declared that in colonies under Dutch sovereignty, no one from any position was (without being expressly authorized by the government) allowed to: a) inspect the government's documents, either in the form of a copy or extract, unless the interested person was from a high ranking office or department; b) publish or in any other way make public other parts of these archives; and c) retain any part of these archives if they were not required for an official operation, activity or task. Moreover, article five of this decision states that any civil or military official who contravened in the prohibition in this decision would be discharged from service.¹²⁷ Afterward, it became difficult to gain access to the old documents.

In the 1860s, a correlation was discovered between the increased interest in colonial history and the debate about the location and function of the colonial archives. It seems that it became one of the reasons behind sending the old documents from the Dutch East Indies to the Netherlands (ARA). In 1862, the Deputy of the Country Archivist of the ARA, J.K.J. de Jonge began to publish a series of historical documents that used reports from witnesses to provide insight into the colony reasoning and motives. The series titled *De opkomst van het Nederlandsch gezag*, was well received and grew to contain ten parts. This caused de Jonge

¹²⁶ Jaquet, F.G.P., and A.E.M. Ribberink, "Mr. J.A. van der Chijs ...pp. 197-198

¹²⁷ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Algemeen Rijksarchief, 1800-1966, nummer toegang 2.14.03, inventarisnummer 386

to become an honorary member of the Royal Batavian Society on June 1, 1878. The series seemed to stimulate the study of colonial history, colonial past and men started to look at it as a point of national pride.¹²⁸

After sending the old documents from the Dutch East Indies to the Netherlands, at the end of the 1870s, the Dutch colonial government began to see the possibility of keeping those archives in the Dutch East Indies. As a result, in 1892 the Landsarchief was established. Although at the turn of the nineteenth century, society in the Dutch East Indies still did not have sense of history. Many people still questioned the importance of organizing the archive. In actuality, arranging archives in a precise order is very important for the daily needs of an administration. Without order, it is difficult to locate particular archives efficiently and in a timely manner. Not to mention, if used properly, the archive can provide evidence of governmental institutions activities and act as a comprehensive financial control of these institutions. Furthermore, a well organized archive is also important for science and, in particular, for historiography. In general, it can be said that historiography develops where the archives are in good condition, organized and accessible. In other words, without these elements, historiography cannot develop. The deterioration of history and especially in the Dutch East Indies seems to correlate with the previously neglected and impaired development of the Dutch East Indies archives at that time.¹²⁹

Establishing an institution to preserve archives can be interpreted as one way to make the archives accessible. Although, at the beginning, accessibility was very restricted only for certain officials and for the benefit of the administration. One of the functions of the Landsarchief was as the central archives depot for all of the old archives and also for the government's archives. This means that governmental institutions could leave their archives in the storage room of the Landsarchief. The archives that were kept were archives that were no longer in use for daily activities of the administration.

With regard to its function as the central depot for governmental archives, there are signs that indicate that the Landsarchief started to exercise its function gradually. For quite some time the Landsarchief was used by some governmental departments as the place to store their archives to stop the destruction of both local and departmental archives. Before the requisite authorization for the removal or destruction of archives was implemented, it was first decreed that the central archives depot should ask for advice from the Landsarchivaris

¹²⁸ Jaquet, F.G.P, and A.E.M. Ribberink, "Mr. J.A. van der Chijs ...", pp. 197-198

¹²⁹ Verhoeven, Dr. F. R. J., "Geschiedenis van het Indische Archiefwezen van 1816-1854", *Tijdschrift voor Indische Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde*, Koninklijk Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen Deel LXXX, 1940, p. 461-463

about archives they wanted to destroy. This is indicated in a letter from the first temporary Government's Secretary on November 8, 1938 (No .2201 / A), included in the *Bijblad* (supplement), and in the *Staatsblad* (Law gazette) No.14117 which was addressed to the heads of the departments of General Administration (Algemene Bestuur). The Landsarchivaris would then provide a decision on whether to keep or destroy the archived documents in question based on the historical value he felt they had.¹³⁰ With this new regulation, other high officials from the governmental departments did not have the right to destroy their archives easily: control of the government's archives was in the hands of the Landsarchief.

III.2. The Role of the Landsarchief for Historians and Others with Access to the Archives in the Landsarchief

Along with the development of science, interest in colonial history and the encouragement from Dutch historians, the archives became more accessible. During the tenure of J.A. van der Chijs (1892-1905), there is little explanation of information related to those who desired to gain access to the old government's archives, except the government official's who successfully acquired a permit to access to those archives. During the period of F. de Haan as the Landsarchivaris (1905-1922), there were only five people who came to the Landsarchief to conduct research and two of them were very disappointed with the treatment that they received from the Landsarchivaris. In addition, in the 1920s, most probably during the tenure of E.C. Godée Molsbergen, access to archival documents was not only granted to officials with a permit. For example, a woman named Wilhelmina Fruin-Mees obtained direct access to the archives in the Landsarchief because she was married to Th. A. Fruin, the son of the Algemene Rijksarchivaris in the Netherlands at that time, R. Fruin. She was also a history teacher and later she published her own books, which possibly resulted from her research in the Landsarchief.¹³¹

Moreover, persons who made use of the old government archives were mostly scholars and historians not only from the Dutch East Indies but also from the Netherlands and elsewhere in the part of the world. They used archives in order to conduct research for their study. For example many scholars who studied law in Batavia went to the Landsarchief to

¹³⁰ Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië over 1938, Landsdrukkerij, Batavia, 1939.p. 9-10

¹³¹ Jaquet, Frits, "E. du Perron en het Landsarchief." *Indische Letteren*, vol. 7, no.3, September 1992, p. 117

search the documents that they need for their research. Moreover, scholars who were interested in the colonial history in the Dutch East Indies came to the Landsarchief in Batavia to get more information.

Furthermore, in the course of nineteenth century, historical works from the historian at that time were questionable. At that time there were many “historical” writings that were difficult to distinguish from roman than as a historiography, therefore, to make the historical works more reliable the historians decided to make use of original documents from the period of that they studied. Those documents were called archives. However, due to restrictions, the Dutch colonial government decided to appoint an official historian. There were at least four historians in the Dutch East Indies that wrote about the colonial history and the Dutch East Indies during nineteenth century, they were: De Serière, Meylan, Van Beusechem and Van Hoëvell.¹³² They wrote during differed eras but had the same task which was to write historiography of the Dutch East Indies using the old documents which which would make their historical works more trustworthy. It seems that in the early of twenty century, F. de Haan was also had a function as the official historian of the Dutch East Indies. His works mostly concerned the colonial history, especially in the Dutch East Indies. This explains how he could acquire permission to access the archives before he was appointed as the Landsarchivaris.

However, after F. de Haan retired as the Landsarchivaris, it was difficult to find out whether or not there were other official historians of the Dutch East Indies, although there still appeared historians of the Dutch East Indies. However, the next *Landsarchivarissen* appear to have similar function as the historian. This can be seen from the scientific works that were published by them; not to mention that they were also members of history department in the Royal Batavian Society for Arts and Sciences. With their privileged access to the archives it was not difficult for them to publish a historiography.

In 1926, when Godée Molsbergen, the Landsarchivaris at that time, had to conduct archival research on the outer islands of the Dutch East Indies like Ambon and Ternate, and also when he had to leave abroad, his deputy, P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins took over the function as Landsarchivaris. At that time the number of people who came to the Landsarchief to do a research had increased, from five people (during F. de Haan’s tenure) to over forty people; and there were even a few Japanese people among them. However, this number was probably also caused by the new the open air museum in the backyard of the Landsarchief

¹³² Verhoeve, F.R.J., “De vier “officeele” geschiedschrijvers van Nederlandsch-Indië: De Serière, Meylan, Van Beusechem en Van Hoëvell”, *De Fakkel*, Volume 1, No.2, (Batavia: Koninklijke Drukkerij De Unie, 1 December 1940), pp. 116-131

and also by the genealogy cards which were being compiled by Bloys van Treslong Prins.¹³³ The plan to establish an open air museum in the backyard of the Landsarchief was already in discussion in 1926. At that time, the bust of Pieter Erberfelt was moved from the Jakatra-weg to the garden of the Landsarchief, located in Molenvliet. Pieter Erberfelt was of German-Indonesian descendant who were sentenced to death by the Dutch colonial government in 1722 for allegedly murdering many people in Batavia. He was suspected of plotting an assault against the Dutch colonial government. However, later it was acknowledged that he was not guilty.¹³⁴

In 1936, the Landsarchief made important internal changes. The archival collections were divided into two parts: old archives from 1596 until mid-1811 were placed under the responsibility of the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris, and new government archives spanning from mid-1811 to the present were managed by the Landsarchivaris. In 1937, when F.R.J. Verhoeven became the Landsarchivaris, several significant changes occurred. The Landsarchief created a separate collection for maps, which at that time included more than 8,500 documents. The Landsarchief also set up historical-topographical prints and photo collections. The Landsarchief library staff re-catalogued and regularly updated the collections. It also began to collect government publications and documentation that were important for the development of Dutch East Indies history. Lastly, the Landsarchief also opened an information and book-binding service.¹³⁵

In the last period of the Landsarchief (1937-1942/43), it opened an information service that consisted of three divisions: historical information service, genealogical information service and historical documentation and classification. The historical information service dealt with questions and requests related to the field of history; the genealogical information service dealt with questions or requests in the field of genealogy; and the historical documentation and classification service provided a systematic and complete catalogue of the library. The historical documentation and classification division provided publications that were very important for history, including press clippings and compiled documents that were taken from the Dutch East Indies archives collections which had already been printed.¹³⁶

¹³³ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer* 46.p. 55

¹³⁴ "Batavia griezligt monument", *Nieuwe Tilburgsche Courant*, 22-06-1926, 12 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010234819%3Ampg21%3Ap007%3Aa0112>>

¹³⁵ Verhoeven, F.R.J., *Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië 1892-1942*, Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1943.p. 9-11

¹³⁶ *Ibid.*

When these information services were put into place, the number of visitors who came to the Landsarchief increased. The visitors who came to conduct research were not only professors of law schools, foreign scholars or government officials but also ordinary people who lived in the Dutch East Indies.¹³⁷ More details about the requests for information submitted to the Landsarchief service centres can be seen in the table below:

Historical Information Request

No.	Period/year	Number of request
1.	1892-1901	18
2.	1901-1912	47
3.	1912-1921	37
4.	1922-1932	110
5.	1932-1936	81
6.	1937	21
7.	1938	26
8.	1939	60
9.	1940	54
10.	1941	69

Source: *Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië 1892-1942*, Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1943.

The various backgrounds of visitors who came to the Landsarchief and submitted requests to the historical information service in 1939 and 1940 can be seen in the table below:

No.	Purpose	1939	1940
1.	Government' institutions	12	17
2.	For scientific purposes	38	29
3.	Personal purposes	10	3
Total request		60	54

Source: Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 45

¹³⁷ "Het Lands-archief te Batavia", *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*, 30-05-1929, 13 Jun. 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010221481%3Ampg21%3Ap009%3Aa0139>>

Regarding the number of requests for the genealogical information, there was approximately one family name requested each day.¹³⁸ The number of people who came and requested genealogical information increased each year, especially during the Japanese occupation of the Dutch East Indies. On an average week, there were approximately 900 visitors that came to the Landsarchief and requested genealogy cards.¹³⁹

Between 1942 and 1943, after the Japanese military service imprisoned the Landsarchivaris and other European officials of the Landsarchief in internment camps, the information service was closed (although the Landsarchief itself still operated under the supervision and management of a Japanese military officer).¹⁴⁰ The condition of the Landsarchief after the Japanese occupation is unknown, but, according to the *Het nieuwsblad voor Sumatra* newspaper published on August 23, 1948, the *Landsarchief* was reopened in 1948 and once again served its purpose of providing access to documents.¹⁴¹

As a scientific institution that provided information about the past, the Landsarchief served numerous individuals who requested historical information, not only from the different parts of the Dutch East Indies but also from abroad. The Landsarchief was increasingly a point of interest for all those who engaged with both the historical study of the Dutch East Indies and with the study of comparative colonial history. The visits of Professor Dr. F.M. Trautz in the late 1930s, former Director of the German Institute in Kyoto, illustrate this increasing foreign interest. For some time, Trautz collected data from the Landsarchief about the contact between the Dutch East Indies and Japan in the nineteenth century. Professor Trautz strongly insisted that the publication of documents from the Landsarchief continue. According to him, the Landsarchief preserved very important collections, which also could be of great interest in Japan.¹⁴²

The diversity of the available historical documents was of interest to the Dutch East Indies, as well as other surrounding countries. Unfortunately for those living elsewhere, the distance often made it impossible for researchers and other potential visitors to consult the archives in person. Those who did make it often had subjects of particular interest, and would request information that provided direct evidence relating to their subjects of interest. The

¹³⁸ Verhoeven, F.R.J., *Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië 1892-1942*, Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1943.p.12-13

¹³⁹ The number of requests/visitors to the Landsarchief during the Japanese occupation was not included in the table because it was considered as a special event.

¹⁴⁰ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummertoeegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 45.

¹⁴¹ "Landsarchief heropend", *Het nieuwsblad voor Sumatra*, 23-08-1948, 23 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010474784%3Ampg21%3Ap002%3Aa0026>>

¹⁴² Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië over 1938, Landsdrukkerij, Batavia, 1939.p. 6

Landsarchief achieved greater fame through its publications and increasing international contacts, through the establishment of the Far Eastern Commission, and its rising popularity among lovers of history was made clear by the steady flow of requests for the historical information. The nature of the requested documents, and archive's ability to adequately produce them, is elaborated upon below.¹⁴³

Genealogy *fiche* is one of the valuable collections (consisting of cards and documents) which can be found in the Landsarchief. It was P.C. Bloys van Treslong Prins, who set up the collection of genealogy documents of the Landsarchief. Before the Japanese occupation, during the period of the Dutch colonial government, there was already genealogy research conducted by people of mixed descent, especially those who were Indo-Dutch people. Some attempted to find out whether or not they were Dutch descendants. During that period, Europeans—and the Dutch in particular—often held the highest positions in society. Those who worked for the government were mostly Dutch. Dutch people in the Dutch East Indies were living in prosperity under the colonial government. Therefore, a lot of people who were mixed (Indo-Dutch) hoped to achieve the same status in society by using the genealogy documents in the *Landsarchief* in order to find if they had a Dutch ancestor in their family lineage.¹⁴⁴ By being able to conduct genealogy research, they were expected to be able to prove themselves as a Dutch descendant; therefore, they would be able to have access to a better life, better job, better education, etc. which was available to Europeans. The document that provided this valuable information was *Assal Oesoel*. This document can be found in the Landsarchief and was signed by the Landsarchivaris. An example of this document can be found in appendix IV.

The *Assal Oesoel* is a genealogy document that lists the lineage or pedigree of a person. These documents were used by the Japanese regime to decide who would be forced into internment camps. Under Japanese occupation, strong Indonesian bloodlines, evidenced on paper, could minimize the chance of being placed in an internment camp.¹⁴⁵ To some extent, these could be life-saving documents, since internees often did not survive the camps due to the poor sanitary conditions and the abuse suffered under the Japanese military officers.

Protests emerged after the period of the Japanese occupation against the genealogy documents. Many historians argued that a lot of the genealogy documents in the Landsarchief

¹⁴³ Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië over 1938, Landsdrukkerij, Batavia, 1939.p. 6

¹⁴⁴ Collection 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven. Nummer toegang: 2.21Archive inventory number 45. Page 95.

¹⁴⁵ Aeckerlin, Tjaal., Shoonenberg, Rick., *De jaren van asal oesoel. Indische Nederlanders in de Japanse tijd*, Amsterdam, KIT publishers, 2006.

were being falsified. Nevertheless, those documents had saved lives of many people.¹⁴⁶ During the Japanese occupation, there were 800 to 900 visitors at the *Landsarchief* per week and in one year there were approximately 5,000 genealogy documents that were issued by the Landsarchief, which apparently were perfectly acceptable to the Japanese officers.¹⁴⁷

Further, the Landsarchief also had an important function in both Dutch East Indies society and also for the Dutch society. A number of people in the Netherlands requested information or archives about their relatives who lived in Batavia or any other areas in the Dutch East Indies via the ARA. In the archival collection of the ARA, which can be found in the National Archive in The Hague, were several registered letters from the people who lived in the Netherlands addressed to the Algemene Rijksarchivaris. Most of those letters contain requests for information or access to archives that were preserved in the Landsarchief. The archives that they requested in large part contained information about a particular individual (most commonly a relative) who worked in the Dutch East Indies. In many cases, they lost contact with their relatives. They sent their requests via the ARA because it had connection with the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies.

In order to establish better contact with the public, on January 18, 1936, the Landsarchief opened an exhibition to celebrate its jubilee. Many people visited the Landsarchief including secondary school students. All of them took this opportunity to learn more about the Landsarchief, which was considered as one of the important institutions at the time.¹⁴⁸ This exhibition certainly was not the first time or the last, because in March 1938, the Landsarchief held another exhibition to commemorate the establishment of that well-known organisation, the Dutch East India Company.¹⁴⁹ In August of the same year, the Landsarchivaris decided to organize yet another exhibition in the building of the Landsarchief about India's history during the tenure of Her Majesty the Queen.¹⁵⁰ The following year, 1939, the Landsarchief also held an exhibition about the visit of Prince Frederik Hendrik to the Dutch East Indies. This historical exhibition lasted a full week and was highly anticipated

¹⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁷ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 45

¹⁴⁸ "Moederland het Jubileerend Landsarchief. De Expositie." *De Sumatra Post*. 18-01-1936, 12 May 2012,

<<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010383472%3Amp021%3Ap003%3Aa0103>>

¹⁴⁹ "Stichtingsdag V.O.I.C." *De Sumatra Post*. 21-03-1938, 12 May 2012,

<<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010383893%3Amp021%3Ap003%3Aa0061>>

¹⁵⁰ "Landsarchief." *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*. 18-08-1938, 12 May 2012,

<<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010227581%3Amp021%3Ap005%3Aa0063>>

by many people.¹⁵¹ In 1938 until 1941, there were approximately 6,300 visitors registered in the Landsarchief, while more than 28,500 documents, bundles, books and cards were consulted by the public.¹⁵²

III.3. The Collection of Archives in the Landsarchief. (The Process of Acquisition of the Archives)

The archives that were preserved in the Dutch East Indies Landsarchief not only came from government institutions, but also from private sector companies that were located in the Dutch East Indies. The acquisition of those archives occurred when government institutions handed over their documents to the Landsarchief. Also, the Landsarchief purchased the archives from the private sector or other third parties that possessed documents that contained historical value. At times, the Landsarchief received archives from a third party as a gift. Also, the archives not only came from the government institutions located in Batavia but also from institutions in other parts of the country. For example, in 1898, after a devastating earthquake, the administration in Ambon sent their collection of a large number of archives to the Landsarchief. Most of those archives consist of *Memorie van Overgave* (Memorandum of Resignation) of the government officials, archives from the Dutch East Company, etc.¹⁵³

Apparently, in the outer islands of the Dutch East Indies, the local administrations also had offices and storage rooms for their archival collections, including the archives from the VOC period and the British interregnum. The existence of other “*landsarchieven*” is demonstrated by E.C. Godée Molsbergen’s journey to Ambon and Ternate to conduct archival research, from which he compiled lists of archives that were kept in the storage rooms of the local administration.¹⁵⁴

It seems that the other “*landsarchieven*” existed long before the Landsarchief was established. It can be argued that the reason why many of the archives were not kept or moved to the Landsarchief was because of the distance; it was a long journey from the outer islands to Batavia, and also there was a risk of losing these archives if they were moved. The journey to the outer islands to conduct archival research also serves as way to conduct an

¹⁵¹ “Tentoonstelling Landsarchief.” *Het nieuws van den dag voor Nederlandsch-Indië*. 18-08-1939, 12 May 2012, <<http://kranten.kb.nl/view/article/id/ddd%3A010227308%3Ampg21%3Ap006%3Aa0102> >

¹⁵² Verhoeven, F.R.J., *Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië 1892-1942*, Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1943.pp.16

¹⁵³ 24 May 2012, < <http://www.statengeneraaldigitaal.nl/> >

¹⁵⁴ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer* 46. pp. 55

appraisal and selection of the archives; afterward, it can be decided which archives would be moved to the Landsarchief.

In 1938, the Dutch colonial government imposed a regulation that enabled the Landsarchivaris to do an appraisal and selection of the government's archives. The Landsarchivaris gave his recommendation concerning which archives were of historical value. Through this regulation, the Landsarchivaris possessed the right to decide the life cycle of the archives. More detail about this regulation can be found in the first sub-chapter of this chapter.¹⁵⁵

Later in the 1940s, the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies proposed a draft of the Landsarchief's management to the Volksraad. One of the articles stated that the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies had the privilege to establish another storage room ("*landsarchief*") for the state's archives. In addition, that draft of the regulation also mentions that all of the archives, documents or records included in the state's archives would be placed into the Landsarchief sixty years after the documents had been created.¹⁵⁶

As mentioned before, the Landsarchief also preserved archives from the private sector, some of which were received as gifts, some of which the Landsarchief bought from other parties. For example, in 1921, the Landsarchief purchased archives from the publisher Martinus Nijhoff in The Hague. It turned out that those archives were original *Indische* archives (archives of the Dutch East Indies) from the 1830s that were stolen from the Landsarchief. Later, the archives were purchased by the Martinus Nijhoff. In the catalogue of the Martinus Nijhoff, listed numerous Dutch East Indies archives from the nineteenth century, therefore, the Dutch East Indies government decided to purchase it secretly. Prior to the 1850s, the theft of old government documents occurred frequently. Officials who worked in various positions within the government were often responsible. More detail of this matter can be seen in first subchapter of this chapter.¹⁵⁷

¹⁵⁵ *Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië, 's Lands Archief, tijdschrift/reeks* 1939.p.9-10

¹⁵⁶ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 30.

¹⁵⁷ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 1.

Chapter IV. The Relationship between the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies and the Algemene Rijksarchief in the Netherlands

This chapter describes the relationship between the Landsarchief of the Dutch East Indies and the Algemene Rijksarchief of the Netherlands, including: the involvement of the Algemene Rijksarchivaris in problems that occurred in the Landsarchief of the Dutch East Indies and to what extent the Algemene Rijksarchivaris contributed to policies imposed on the Landsarchief by the Dutch colonial government. Since both organizations are government institutions that managed and preserved the archives, this chapter also examines the similarities and differences in their archival development.

The Algemene Rijksarchief was established through the decision of the *Staatsbewind* on June 17, 1802. This decision was related to the appointment of H. van Wijn as an *archivarius* of the Republic of Bataaf (Bataafse Republiek), the government of the Netherlands at that time.¹⁵⁸ The decision also led to the establishment of the Algemene Rijksarchief.¹⁵⁹ A similar situation also led to the creation of the Landsarchief, in which the government decision to appoint the first Landsarchivaris was also acknowledged as the beginning of the Landsarchief.¹⁶⁰

In researching this thesis, many items demonstrated a connection between these two archival institutions. In many ways, the establishment of the Landsarchief referenced the ARA in the Netherlands. It is important to note that the Landsarchivaris had a different task from the *Rijksarchief*, but this will be discussed later in this subchapter.

The officials who worked in the Landsarchief fulfilled the same roles as those in the ARA. Both of these two archival institutions were managed by the state archivist (Landsarchivaris and Algemene Rijksarchivaris), deputy of the state archivist and others.

¹⁵⁸ Bataafse Republiek is an official name of the state which later known as the Netherlands. This name was used after the after the conquest of the by the Netherlands by the French in 1795. 25 May 2012, <<http://www.wazamar.org/Nederlanden/bataafse-rep.htm> 11-05-2012 >

¹⁵⁹ Hustinx, L.M.Th.L., et al. *Deel IX De Archieven in het Algemeen Rijksarchief*. Overzichten van de Archieven en Verzamelingen in de Openbare Archiefbewaarplaatsen in Nederland, Alphen aan den Rijn, Samson Uitgeverij bv, 1982. pp.21.

¹⁶⁰ Besluit van den Gouverneur-Generaal van Nederlandsch-indië van 28 Januari 1892 no. 23, Staatsblad van Nederlandsch-Indië 1892, Batavia, Landsdrukkerij, 1893, No.34

However, due to budget constraints, the number of staff members who worked in the Landsarchief was fewer than those the Rijksarchivaris.

Moreover, due to the connection between the collections preserved in the Landsarchief and in the ARA, it was important to establish cooperation between both parties. Before the Landsarchief was established, the Dutch colonial government decided to send many of the archives to the Netherlands. This practice was stopped in the 1870s, and the Dutch colonial government decided to keep the archives in the Dutch East Indies. Therefore, the archives that were in the custody of these institutions are possibly related. In addition, there is also an example of a correspondence between the temporary Landsarchivaris and the Algemene Rijksarchivaris. The letter states that the (temporary) Landsarchivaris, with the approval of the Algemene Secretaris, would send requested records to the Algemene Rijksarchivaris. The requested records concerned the partition of the country and the people of Solo and Jogja in 1773.¹⁶¹

One of the examples of the cooperation between the scholars and archivists in the Netherlands with the archivist in the Dutch East Indies was the publication of registers (indexes) of the archives entitled “*Dagregister gehouden int Casteel Batavia van passerende daer ter plaetse als over geheel Nederlants India*”. Some of these series of registers (indexes) were available in the Netherlands and some available in Batavia. The Dutch confreres published eight volumes, while Van der Chijs and Dr. F. de Haan published sixteen.¹⁶²

The Algemene Secretarie demanded that part of responsibility of the Landsarchivaris was to create an annual report. The format of the annual report more or less directly references the annual report of the ARA, which contains information that related to the condition of the archives, the condition of the organisation and its recent activities. This annual report was made in the same fashion as the report published by the Algemene Rijksarchief the Netherlands.¹⁶³

During the establishment of the Landsarchief in the Dutch East Indies, there were correspondences between the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies or the Algemene Secretaris or the Landsarchivaris with the Algemene Rijksarchivaris in the Netherlands. The correspondences that occurred between them were related with the management of the Landsarchief (some of the examples of these correspondences have been mentioned

¹⁶¹ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Algemeen Rijksarchief, 1800-1966, nummer toegang 2.14.03, inventarisnummer 131. 1905

¹⁶² 26 May 2012, < <http://www.statengeneraaldigitaal.nl/> >

¹⁶³ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummer toegang: 2.21.281.04, inventarisnummer: 64.

previously in this subchapter). Most of the time the Governor General or the Algemene Secretaris or the Landsarchivaris asked for advice from the Algemene Rijksarchivaris regarding problems that had occurred in the Landsarchief. One of the examples of those correspondences was sent from Algemene Secretaris and the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies to the Algemene Rijksarchivaris, asking about the criteria that were required for the next Landsarchivaris of the Dutch East Indies. In addition, in any other ways the Algemene Rijksarchivaris tried to indirectly stay involve in the management of the Landsarchief through other methode as well.

At the end of 1921 there was already a discussion about appointing a new Landsarchivaris, even though at that time F. de Haan was still working on the position. This discussion emerged because there were many critics that voiced their opinions of F. de Haan and his function as the Landsarchivaris. During his tenure as the Landsarchivaris (1905-1922), several critics complained how F. de Haan did not assist them when they tried to conduct a research in the Landsarchief. Further, they mentioned that de Haan was only concerned about his own publications and ignored his function as the Landsarchivaris. Many people who came to the Landsarchief at that time were disappointed because they could not get access to the archives.

Therefore, in 1920 or 1921, the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies resolved to perform an internal reorganisation in the Landsarchief. In early 1919 it was already decided that an Adjunct-Landsarchivaris should be hired who would eventually replace F. de Haan as Landsarchivaris. In a letter dated October 12, 1920, F. de Haan requested assistance in finding an Adjunct-Landsarchivaris living in the Netherlands. He sent the letter to Professor R. Fruin, the Algemene Rijksarchivaris at the time, and also to Professor Colenbrander, a famous historian. F. de Haan already knew Colenbrander personally but had not met Fruin. Therefore, he asked Professor Colenbrander to help him contact Fruin. F. de Haan asked the opinion of these two gentlemen because he did not know anyone in the Netherlands who was qualified for the position of Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. In his opinion, Fruin and Colenbrander could recommend the best candidate. However, the response to his letter was unexpected: Fruin and Colenbrander had different opinions on what criteria was necessary for fulfilling the role of the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. Fruin wanted to send a person who was exclusively an archivist, and who would organize the archives. Meanwhile, Professor Colenbrander argued that an Adjunct-Landsarchivaris should be someone with the goal of publishing what was hidden in the archives.

Regarding the different opinions from the two experts, F. de Haan argued that Fruin's opinion was based on conditions in the Netherlands, which was different from the situation in the Dutch East Indies. In the Netherlands, there were many people who had an interest in scientific research. Every day, the reading room of the ARA was full of visitors who conducted research and published their results. In the Dutch East Indies, there was no such public. However, on the other hand, if the Landsarchivaris did not publish at all and only focused on archival work, then the Landsarchief would remain paralyzed and useless.

Furthermore, F. de Haan argued that the reason a new position was created at the Landsarchief was to create the perfect combination of functions in the Landsarchief: The Landsarchivaris published his works, while, the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris would deal with inventory. From the inventory completed by the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris, the Landsarchivaris' publications would grow. However, if there was only one official and that person was only focused on publishing, then, the archival management would be neglected. Therefore, de Haan preferred that the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris would be a historian.¹⁶⁴

In the copy of letter from the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies to the Ministry of Colonies on November 11, 1920, the Governor General stated that he had already sent a letter on October 12, 1920 regarding the proposal to appoint a suitable candidate to be the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris from the Netherlands. The Governor General asked for the Ministry of Colonies to intervene and send someone from the Netherlands. Unfortunately, there was still no response from the Ministry of Colonies. On July 28, 1919, the General Secretary of the Department of Colonies recommended Bloys van Treslong Prins as the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. He based this decision on the fact that van Treslong Prins had already stayed in the Dutch East Indies and had experience dealing with the archives.¹⁶⁵

F. de Haan did not agree that Bloys van Treslong Prins should become his deputy archivist. Although he felt that van Treslong Prins did not have the skills needed to perform the tasks assigned to him, his opinion was irrelevant; in 1922, E.C. Godée Molsbergen was officially appointed to replace F. de Haan as Landarchivaris. A few years later in 1926, Bloys van Treslong Prins was appointed as Adjunct-Landarchivaris. The reason of the delay is unknown. However, before the Dutch colonial government officially appointed Bloys van Treslong Prins, the Algemene Rijksarchivaris, R Fruin, corresponded with Overvoorde, an archivist in Leiden. From their letters it indicated that Fruin tried to persuade Overvoorde to

¹⁶⁴ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 1

¹⁶⁵ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Ministerie van Koloniën Openbaar Verbaal, 1901-1952, *nummer toegang* 2.10.36.04, *inventarisnummer* 2343

fill the position as the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris, who was experienced in archival management and had worked in the Dutch East Indies writing descriptions for the VOC's monuments. In mid December 1921, the assessment from the Netherlands was discussed in Buitenzorg (the Algemene Secretarie) and two months later, the Governor General gave permission to leave for Europe to F. de Haan which took effect in August 1922. During his leave, F. de Haan requested to resign due to length of his service as the Landsarchivaris.¹⁶⁶

In 1922 the Algemene Secretaris and the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies appointed E. C. Godée Molsbergen as F. de Haan's successor. The reason the Dutch colonial government chose Molsbergen was because at that time he was coincidentally located in the Dutch East Indies and worked temporarily as a teacher in the Koning Willem III School in Batavia. It was considered as an immediate and cheap decision because by then the Dutch colonial government did not have to spend money sending someone from the Netherlands to the Dutch East Indies. Then in 1926, Bloys van Treslong Prins was eventually selected to serve as Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. At that time, he was also domiciled in Batavia.

In 1927, R. Fruin, the Algemene Rijksarchivaris at that time sent a letter to the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies. The letter showed how the Netherlands or the Algemene Rijksarchivaris to be exact, tried to be involved in the management of the Landsarchief. In that letter, R. Fruin, criticized the management of the Landsarchief. He described in his letter that after the period of service by J.A. van der Chijs as the Landsarchivaris, there was little inventarization that was done by the Landsarchivaris. Here he seemingly refers to F. de Haan who was the successor of J.A. van der Chijs. Further, he also explained that without any improvement in the inventarization there would be insufficient access to the archives for the public. Meanwhile, in his opinion the archives should be accessible for the public. Moreover, he also criticized the Landsarchivaris, arguing that the Landsarchivaris played the role of an archivist and not a historian. It was the Landsarchivaris' task to give information and offer direction to the public that wanted to use the archives.

For example, Fruin received information that there was an individual who wanted to find some documents and he asked the Landsarchivaris to help him. Instead of providing assistance, the Landsarchivaris gave him a box full of archives and asked the person to find the archives that he wanted by himself. The archives in that box itself were not yet organized into anything resembling a comprehensible system. As the result, the researcher did not

¹⁶⁶ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 46

finish his research and decided to return to the Netherlands and continue his research there (in the ARA).

Further, R.Fruin also explained that the Landsarchivaris should have the archival knowledge. Moreover, Fruin paid a lot of attention to the archives that contained contracts between the VOC or the Dutch colonial government and the local kings. It seems of utmost importance that those documents were not lost, but safely stored in the Landsarchief.¹⁶⁷

Furthermore, the Landsarchief and the ARA sometimes communicated with each other about information related to their archival collections. They did this simply to get access to certain documents. A few of the correspondences between these two archival institutions can be found in appendix V.

From this chapter it was obvious how the Algemene Rijksarchief or Algemene Rijksarchivaris tried to be involved in the activities and the management of the Landsarchief. Not to mention, the Algemene Secretaris of the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies also often asked for the opinion of the Algemene Rijksarchivaris concerning the Landsarchief. Although not every opinion of the Algemeene Rijksarchivaris was followed, however, it shows the close relationship between these two archival institutions: the Landsarchief and the Algemene Rijksarchief.

¹⁶⁷ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 12

CHAPTER V. CONCLUSION

The process of establishing the Landsarchief did not go smoothly. It took years from the first proposal until it was finally approved in 1892. Its creation signified a new beginning to the archival development in the Dutch East Indies. From its inception until the Japanese occupation in 1942 and 1943, the Landsarchief experienced several internal reorganisations. By adding a new commission (*archieffcommissie*), a supervisory body adopted the Algemene Secretaris' task of supervising the management of the Landsarchief. Its personnel grew from fewer than six staff members (including the volunteers) in the 1890s to almost thirty workers (including volunteers) in the 1940s. The increasing number of the staff involved in the Landsarchief marked its development not only as the central repository for all the government archives, but also as a scientific institution that provided information to researchers and the general public. However, it all began with the arrangement of the old government documents. Organizing the archives created access to the archives (although, in the beginning, access was only granted to certain government officials in possession of a permit.)

One of the Landsarchief's for the Dutch colonial government was as a central archive depot of all state's archives. That meant that all of the Dutch colonial government's departments were required to place their archives in the Landsarchief. By doing this, the Dutch colonial government via the Landsarchivaris could conduct investigations of past officials by using the archives. From the investigations, the Dutch colonial government acquired knowledge about the activities of government institutions and also decided which archives contained historical value and should be kept or eliminated. For example, according to its 1938 annual report, the Landsarchief conducted research related to the archives produced by the Department of Finance. The Landsarchief requested that the archives from the department be brought to the archive. The same request was also made of the Department of Binnenlandsch Bestuur; for the investigation, the archives from the Binnenlandsch Bestuur were sent to the Landsarchief. These archives not only contained official public documents, but also included secret letters.¹⁶⁸ The Dutch colonial government also prohibited all departments from destroying their archives without the advice or judgement of the

¹⁶⁸ Jaarverslag van het Landsarchief van Nederlandsch-Indië over 1938, Landsdrukkerij, Batavia 1939. p.12

Landsarchivaris. The Landsarchivaris could decide which archives could be destroyed and which archives should be kept based on their historical value. At the same time, the Landsarchivaris eventually opened the opportunity to access the archives to historians and researchers, which meant that the Landsarchief also functioned as a scientific institution.

To manage the Landsarchief, the Algemene Secretaris and the Governor General appointed officials: the Landsarchivaris and the Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. Those two functions played an important role in making the new policy. Due to several conflicts and criticisms of the *Landsarchivariissen*, the Landsarchief made several internal changes for example adding new commission to supervise the activity of the officials of the Landsarchief.

Prior to its establishment, the poor condition of the archives (which were not in chronological order and were poorly preserved) encouraged the Dutch colonial government to appoint a person to perform archival tasks: to make an inventory and to catalogue all the archives. By organizing and ordering the archives, the Dutch colonial government could make use of them. This was particularly important for the administration when it urgently required access to certain documents. The administration's use of the archives usually occurred when it planned to create or impose new policies. By looking into the archives, the ruling administration then could see what kind of policies were implemented by the previous administration and craft their policies based on earlier examples.

In addition, restrictions were imposed upon those who were not officials of the Dutch colonial administration, because this archival institution preserved important archives including archives that contained important and sometimes confidential information. For example, territorial contracts between the local kings with the VOC or the Dutch colonial government were perhaps too important to be accessed by common civilians. Limited access to these kinds of documents ensured that the Dutch colonial government maintained control over important pieces of information that enabled them to maintain their control of the Dutch East Indies.

The archives were also of great importance in constructing the modern understanding of historical writing. To make historiography became more reliable, historians used the archives to create a distinct genre, separate from the roman, that was used primary sources to reflect accurately on the past. Moreover, the Dutch colonial government appointed official historian of the Dutch East Indies since access to the materials was restricted. In the period of nineteenth century there were at least four official historians (as mentioned in chapter III). By appointing an official historian, the Dutch colonial government controlled the flow of information from the archives. The Dutch colonial government could decide which

information of the archives could be published to the public. In the twenty century, it seemed that this role was replaced by the Landsarchivaris. The Landsarchivaris published many works that used information from the archives.

The restricted access to the archives changed over the time. Not only officials and the official historian were not only ones with access to the archives, but also scholars and public. However, to access the archives someone had to have permission on behalf of the Dutch colonial government. This was to prevent the misuse of the archives.

The cooperative relationship between the Landsarchief and the ARA existed since the establishment of the Landsarchief in 1892. They often corresponded to discuss problems that the Landsarchief faced. The Dutch colonial government always tried to involve the Algemene Rijksarchivaris and the ARA. The Algemene Rijksarchief had a long history of archival management since it was established decades before the Landsarchief. Officials in the Dutch East Indies such as the Algemene Secretarie, the institution that controlled the activity of the Landsarchief, often asked for suggestions and advice from the Algemene Rijksarchivaris.

There also more than one archival institution in the Dutch East Indies. This can be seen in the draft referring to the activity of the Landsarchief proposed by the Algemene Secretarie to the Volksraad. In that draft, the Governor General of the Dutch East Indies had the privilege of establishing another archival institution. Another article of this proposal also mentions that few parties wanted to decentralize the Landsarchief by establishing other archival institutions in all regional capitals in the Dutch East Indies. The same thing had happened in the Netherlands: there were multiple archival institutions in the Netherlands located in the capitals nearly every province. However, it is unknown whether or not this draft was approved when it was proposed in 1940 or 1941. In 1942, the Dutch East Indies was occupied by the Japanese military force.¹⁶⁹ It appears that due to lack of space in the archival storage room in the Landsarchief, it is very possible that other archival institutions were established. Not to mention, the successor of the Landsarchief, the ANRI formerly served as the supervisory board for the regional archival institutions in the Indonesian archipelago, the former Dutch East Indies.

By organizing exhibitions in the 1930s, the Landsarchief started to open itself to the public. Not to mention, under Dutch colonial rule, only certain members of society could

¹⁶⁹ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 30.

understand the Dutch language, which was at that the time a language used by officials, other Dutch people, and Indonesian aristocrats. Not many people today know about the Landsarchief. Perhaps this is because Indonesian society is less interested in archive and its historical value.

After the independence day of the Indonesia and after the *politieele actie* (police action) of the Netherlands, the Landsarchief was under the supervision of the Indonesian government. Now the name of that archival institution is Arsip Nasional Republik Indonesia (ANRI). It seems that not many things changed since it became a government institution of the Indonesian government, except for the location. The archivists are still trying to make descriptions of the archives so that it can be accessed by the public. There are not many people who came to the ANRI except for the scholars and historians who are conducting their research. It seems that language still is an obstacle for many people who would make use of the archives as sources and also for the archivists who are trying to write descriptions of the archives.

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APPENDIX

I.

In 1940, the formation and the function of the officers in the Landsarchief are as follows:

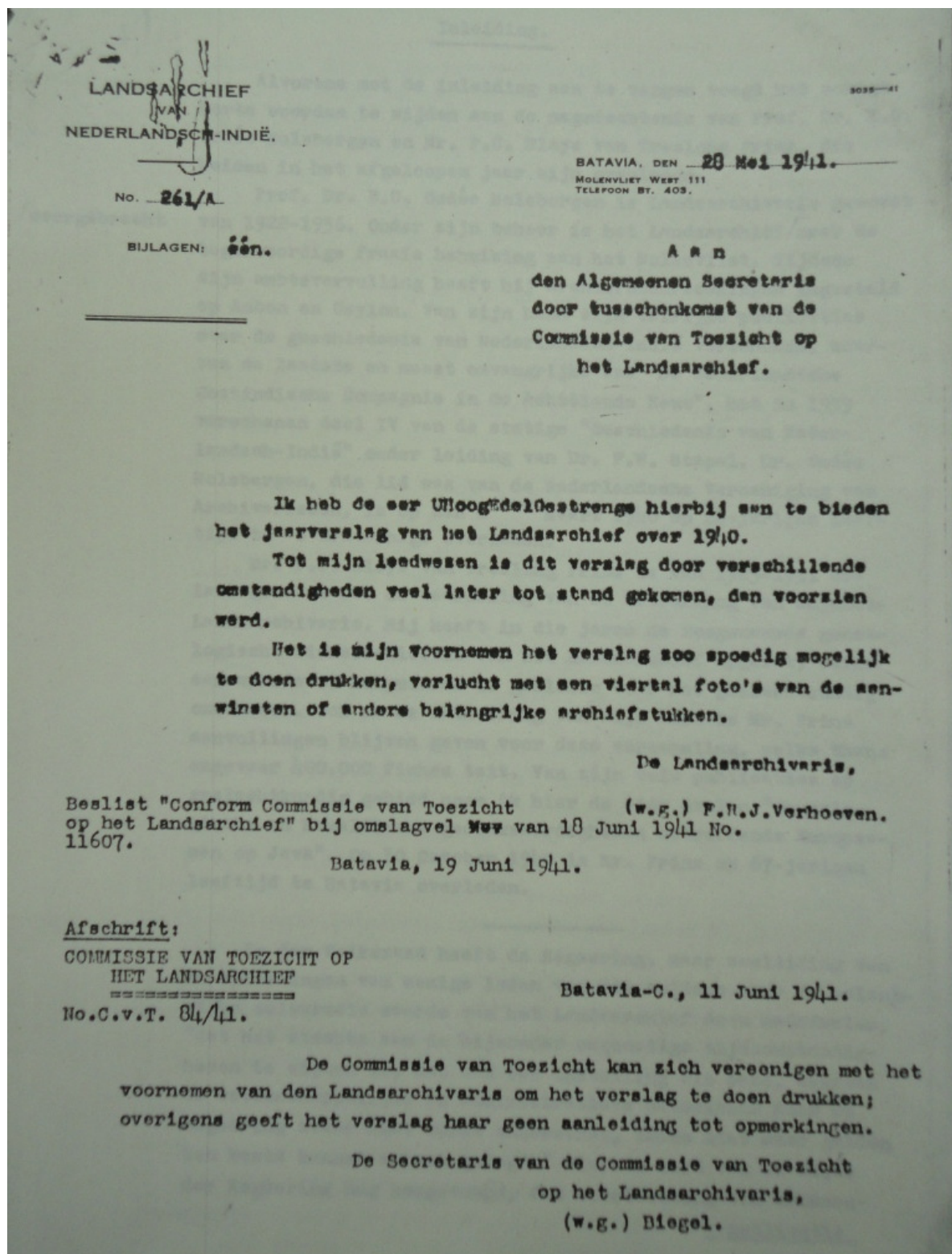
1. Landsarchivaris. F.R.J. Verhoeven was the last Landsarchivaris of the Landsarchief. He was in charge of the whole archive including new archives of the Dutch East Indies government after of the middle of 1811. He was also responsible for the collection of maps;
2. Adjunct-Landsarchivaris. The Adjunct-Landsarchivaris at that time was Dr. J. Th. Vermeulen. His task was to help Landsarchivaris perform his function. He was in charge of the old state archives from 1590 until mid-1811, the historical-topography photos and collections of pictures and prints.
3. *Historische inlichtingendienst* (Historical information service). This officer worked under Drs. H.J.W.N. van Randwijk.
4. Chartermesteres¹⁷⁰ (a function as a deputy archivist). The woman in this position was responsible for monitoring applications for the consultation room and reading room and the daily management of the collection of the genealogical records. In 1940, this function was held by Mrs. M.H.Ph. Bloys van Treslong Prins-Callenfels.
5. *Beheerdster*¹⁷¹ *van de boekerij*. The officer with this function was responsible for the library. In 1940, Ms. Moediarti Poesponegoro performed these duties.
6. *Boekbinder-restaurateur*. The officer in this function was responsible for book binding restoration. The officer with this function was J.C. Voll.
7. *Assistent fotografische reproductie* (Assistant photographic reproduction). R. Achmad held this position and was responsible for reproducing photographs.
8. There was an officer who responsible for the administration, housekeeping and cash flow in the Landsarchief. This position was filled by A.F.H. Resner.
9. There were six Indonesian people who worked as *lichter* and caretakers (*oppasser*) of the archives. The names of those officers are unknown.
10. There were three Indonesian who worked as bookbinders.
11. There were five personnel who acted as volunteers and were called “*intellectueele gesteunde werkloozen*” (unemployed supported intellectual).

¹⁷⁰ *Chartermesteres* is an officer with a function as deputy archivist which was hold by a woman. *Chartermester* is an officer with a function as deputy archivist which was hold by a man.

¹⁷¹ *Beheerdster* is an officer with a function as manager which was hold by a woman. Meanwhile *beheerder* is an officer with a function as manager which was hold by a man.

12. The first clerk at the Algemene Secretarie was named C.A. Brouwer and an archive officer named Hadji Saat were temporarily assigned to the Landsarchief. They assisted in the transferr of part of the government archives from 1851 to 1880.
13. The daily (payment) employees available to the Director of Binnenlands Bestuur, to organize archives of older directors. The two personnel were Mr. Tn Eng Kiam and Mr. Agoes Setia.¹⁷²

¹⁷² Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, *nummer toegang*: 2.21.281.04, *inventarisnummer*: 46, pp. 66-67



¹⁷³ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Collectie 441 F.R.J. Verhoeven, 1921-1987, nummer toegang: 2.21.281.04, inventarisnummer: 32

N°. 64.

KONINKLIJK BESLUIT *van 13 Januari 1854, n°. 64, tot handhaving van het eigendomsregt van den Staat op de Gouvernements-archieven in de koloniën en bezittingen van het Rijk in andere werelddeelen.*

WIJ WILLEM III, BIJ DE GRATIE GODS, KONING DER NEDERLANDEN, PRINS VAN ORANJE-NASSAU, GROOT-HERTOG VAN LUXEMBURG, ENZ., ENZ., ENZ.

Overwegende, dat de Staat een uitsluitend regt van eigendom heeft op alle stukken en bescheiden, behorende tot de Gouvernements-archieven, en dat het noodzakelijk is in het openbaar belang maatregelen te nemen tot handhaving van dit eigendomsregt in de koloniën en bezittingen van het Rijk in andere werelddeelen;

Gezien de voordragt van Onzen Minister van Koloniën van den 18den October 1853, n°. 374, in overleg met Onzen Minister van Justitie;

Gezien art. 59 der Grondwet;

Den Raad van State gehoord, advies van den 4den November 1853, litt. N°;

Gezien de nadere voordragt van Onzen Minister van Koloniën van den 11den Januari 1854, n°. 23, daarbij overleggende eene missive van Onzen Gouverneur-Generaal van Nederlandsch-Indië van den 20sten September 11., n°. 572/1, en afschrift van een, door denzelfden op den 31sten Augustus te voren genomen besluit, tegen de toenemende ongepaste bekendmaking aldaar van zaken, het bestuur betreffende;

Hebben besloten en besluiten:

ART. 1. In de koloniën en bezittingen van het Rijk in andere werelddeelen vermag niemand, van welken rang of staat hij zij, zonder daartoe uitdrukkelijk van Regeeringswege te zijn gemachtigd:

a. aan onbevoegden inzage, afschrift of uittreksels te geven van de archieven van het Gouvernement, of van die van eenige op hoog gezag ingestelde administratie of inrigting van openbaar bestuur;

b. eenig gedeelte van die archieven, ook niet bij wege van uittreksel door den druk of eenige andere wijze openbaar te maken;

c. eenig gedeelte van die archieven, niet vereischt voor de verrigting der hem van Regeeringswege opgedragen werkzaamheden, onder zich te houden.

Onder de archieven voormeld, zijn begrepen alle acten en bescheiden, door de besturen in de overzeesche bezittingen van het opperbestuur in het moederland ontvangen.

ART. 2. Het verbod van het voorgaand artikel vervalt, zoodra eenig stuk van Regeeringswege is openbaar gemaakt, en insgelijks ten aanzien van al zoodanige stukken, welke aan iemand, in zijn bijzonder belang, zijn uitgereikt, als beschikking op, of tot toelichting van, bij de Regeering ahangig gemaakte verzoeken, klagten of bezwaren.

ART. 3. Wanneer afschrift van eenig tot de in art. 1 bedoelde archieven behoorend stuk voor iemand noodig is tot zijne verdediging of regtvaardiging, zal hij, tot bekoming van zoodanig stuk, een met redenen omkleed verzoek kunnen doen aan den landvoogd, met het hoogste gezag in de kolonie of bezitting, Onzentwege, bekleed, die alsdan tot de verstrekking van een gewaarmerkt afschrift de noodige magtiging verleent, ten zij gewichtige redenen voor het tegendeel bestaan.

ART. 4. Een ieder is, bij het verlaten van 's lands dienst in de koloniën en bezittingen van het Rijk in andere werelddeelen, om welke reden of op welke wijze ook, gehouden, zoodra mogelijk en zonder daartoe bijzonder te zijn uitgenoodigd, alle gouvernementstukken, zoo wel oorspronkelijke als afschriften, uittreksels of minuten, welke hij onder zich heeft, onder overlegging van eenen behoorlijken inventaris, ter beschikking te stellen van het Gouvernement, hetwelk die stukken van hem doet overnemen of, des geraden oordeelende, ten verzoeken van den betrokkene, geheel of gedeeltelijk kan afzien van die terugname.

ART. 5. Burgerlijke ambtenaren en militairen, in of buiten werkelijke dienst, het verbod van art. 1 van dit Ons besluit overtredende, worden uit 's lands dienst ontslagen.

Het genot van elk pensioen of elken onderstand, op de koloniale fondsen aangewezen, vangt niet aan, alvorens — of wordt geschorst tot dat — overeenkomstig de voorschriften van dit Ons besluit, volledige af- en overgifte van stukken hebbe plaats gehad.

Het pensioen of de onderstand vervalt, bij mededeeling of openbaarmaking in geschrifte of in druk, het zij met of zonder medewerking van derden of tusschen beide komende personen, van eenig stuk, in strijd met dit Ons besluit.

ART. 6. Voormalige niet-gepensioneerde koloniale ambtenaren, zoo burgerlijke als militaire, gemagtigden, bewindvoerders, uitvoerders van uiterste wilsbeschikkingen van eenig koloniaal burgerlijk of militair ambtenaar, van diens erfgenamen, of deze laatsten zelven, en in het algemeen zij, welke, zonder te vallen in de termen van het voorgaande artikel, dit Ons besluit overtreden, worden, bij regterlijk vonnis, veroordeeld in eene geldboete van f 1000 tot f 3000, te verhalen bij lijfswang.

ART. 7. Bij regterlijk vonnis, kan bovendien elke houder van eenig in dit Ons besluit bedoeld stuk, worden gelast tot af- en overgifte daarvan.

De wettelijke en andere bepalingen omtrent dwanguitgifte van acten, in de koloniën en bezittingen des Rijks in andere werelddeelen van kracht, zijn daarop toepasselijk.

De regtsvorderingen tot af- en overgifte worden ingesteld door of ten name van den Gouverneur der kolonie of bezitting.

Zij verjaren na verloop van dertig jaren, te rekenen van het overlijden des houders, of zoo deze ambtenaar of militair is, van diens ontslag uit 's lands dienst.

ART. 8. Door het tegenwoordig besluit wordt geen inbreuk gemaakt op de toepassing der algemeene strafwetgeving, voor zoo verre daartoe termen mogten blijken aanwezig te zijn.

ART. 9. Alle vroegere bepalingen in de koloniën en bezittingen van het Rijk in andere werelddeelen, dit onderwerp betreffende, worden bij deze ingetrokken en buiten werking gesteld.

Onze Minister van Koloniën is belast met de uitvoering dezes, waarvan afschrift zal worden gezonden aan Onzen Minister van Justitie en aan den Raad van State.

's-GRAVENHAGE,
den 13den Januarij 1854.

(Get.) W I L L E M.

De Minister van Koloniën,
(Get.) CHS. F. PAHUD.

ONNSKI KANDU KOTUNTO-KAN
(LANDARCHIEF)
BATAVIA

Batavia, 26 November 2602.

Asal - oesoel

Mr. ROOS/EN

E.E. MEIJER.

Gerardus Johannes van der GRUPTEN
geb. 15-3-1780 te Bandoejaerl. Batavia in 1831, gehuwd met Hermine BALCHES (Indonesische Christenvrouw (Burg. Stand Batavia))

Dirk Lodewijk NIRHANGVERDIET, overl. Batavia 15-6-1855, gehuwd met geadopteerde dochter Hermine Elisabeth van der GRUPTEN, geb. Batavia in 1810; overl. aldaar in 1931 (Burg. Stand Batavia)

Pierre BANTHOLMI
TIERE
en de
Indonesische vrouw SINAN
(Burg. Stand Semarang)

Rudolphus Adrianus BALCHES, geb. Batavia in 1826, geh. aldaar in 1846 met Geertruida Hermine NIRHANGVERDIET, geb. Batavia in 1826; overl. aldaar in 1865 (Burg. Stand Batavia)

Gasper Carolus TIERE
geb. Semarang 30-6-1843
met Beatrix CASAROVA
(Burg. Stand Semarang)

Willelm Johannes Bernardus HEIJEN, geb. Batavia in 1844; geh. Batavia in 1868 met Eleentje Hermine BALCHES, geb. Batavia (Burg. Stand Batavia)

Abraham SINOF
HAIXHENG
geb. in 1854; geh. Semarang met Anthonetta TIERE
(Burg. Stand Soerabaja)

Henry Victor HEIJEN
geb. Soerabaja 27-12-1883; geh. aldaar 17-3-1907 (Burg. Stand Soerabaja)

Nelanie Eugenie HAIXHENG
geb. tegel 17-7-1887; geh. Soerabaja 13-3-1907 (Burg. Stand Soerabaja)

Malle Dickie HEIJEN
geb. Soerabaja 25-4-1906

I. Daps + Iboe
II. Senek
III. V. Hojang

Voor zoover niet vermeld, zijn bovenstaande gegevens geverifieerd aan de hand van de ONNSKI KANDU KOTUNTO-KAN collectie van het Landarchief.

De Landarchivaris,
Kerhaeve

ONNSKI KANDU KOTUNTO-KAN
BATAVIA

Wach wilhet oesoel mangesjahan tunden tungen Pong
Dr. Frans Nijderst Jans Verhoeven, Kopla Archief Negeri di
Batavi.

Batavi, 26 November 2602.-

Als nam Wakil Burgomester Batavi;
Kopla Kantor Bahagian B.E.,

KANTOR G. MEIJER
BATAVIA

Asal Oesoel van Emile Eugène Meijer (particuliere collectie)

V.

1. Brief. kopie. Ministerie van Binnenlandsche Zaken 28 Junij 1856 No. 224. 5e Afdeeling.¹⁷⁶

Ministerie van Binnenlandsche Zaken

Gezin het Koninklijk besluit van 28 Februarij 1856 No. 68.

Gelet op de magtiging des Konings, verleend bij Kabinet schrijven van den 27 dezer No.55.

Heeft in gemeen overleg met den Minister van Koloniën goedgevonden en verstaan, ten opzichte van het dus genaamde Oud-Koloniaal Archief voorlopig en tot wederroeping te maken de navolgende bepalingen.

Art. 1

Het Koloniaal Archief staat onder toezigt en bewaring van den Rijks Archivaris.

Art. 2

Het wordt als een op zich zelfstaand gedeelte van het Rijksarchief beschouwd en noch geheel noch gedeeltelijk vermengd met de andere archieven daar aanwezig.

Art.3

Van dat archief wordt zoo spoedig mogelijk een inventaris in duplo opgemaakt waarvan een exemplaar aan den Minister van Binnenlandsche Zaken, en aan den Minister van Koloniën wordt overgelegd. De Rijks Archivaris draagt tevens aan beide Ministers de beschouwingen voor, waartoe het nader onderzoek dier Archieven hem aanleiding geeft.

Art. 4

Tot hulp van den Rijks Archivaris bij de overname, inventarisatie, bewaring en rangschikking dier Archieven wordt, op zijne voordragt, door den Minister van Binnenlandsche Zaken na overleg met den Minister van Koloniën, één der ambtenaren aangewezen. Deze is verplicht tenminste twee derden zijner dienststuren aan dit archief toe te wijden, en kan slechts voor een derde geroepen worden zich met de zaken tot de dienst van het archief in het algemeen behoorende bezig te houden.

Art. 5

Voor dezen ambtenaar wordt door den Minister van Binnenlandsche Zaken in overleg met den Minister van Koloniën eene Instructie vastgesteld.

Art. 6

Mededeelingen van stukken en oorkonden uit dit archief hebben plaats overeenkomstig de bepalingen van het Koninklijk besluit van 26 Junij 1856 No. 79 en het algemeen reglement voor het Rijks Archief en onder verantwoordelijkheid van den Rijks Archivaris doch wordt geen verlof tot het in druk uitgeven van stukken of uittreksels daaruit gegeven daarop magtiging van den Minister van Binnenlandsche Zaken.

Art. 7

¹⁷⁶Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Algemeen Rijksarchief, 1800-1966, nummer toegang 2.14.03, inventarisnummer 343

Op een bewijs door den Secretaris Generaal het Departement van Koloniën onderteekend, hebben de ambtenaren van dat Departement, gedurende de dienst uren, ten allen zijde toegang tot het Koloniaal archief, zoo om daarin de vereischte nasporingen te doen, als om tegen *recu* (*received*) de stukken te ligten, welke zij behoeven.

Art. 8

Aan niemand anders wordt buiten het lokaal medeeling van stukken gedaan, dan op magtiging van den Minister van Binnenlandsche Zaken.

's Gravenhage, den 28 Junij 1856
(was get.) van Reenen.

1. *Bericht: ontvangen 6 Juli 1905 no.291. (foto). correspondentie tussen the wd Landsarchivaris met de Rijksarchivaris*¹⁷⁷

Batavia 1 mei 1905

Ik antwoord op Uw schrijven van 23 maart jl no.141 heb ik de eer te berichten dat de daarbij bedoelde registers betreffende de verdeeling der landen en volkeren van Solo en Djokja, datereend van 1773, met goedvinden van den Algemeenen Secretaris van 's Rijks archief worden afgestaan en heden voor de verzending door mij het noodige is verricht.

De wd. (waarnemend/temporary) Landsarchivaris
(cannot see the name)

Den Heer Rijksarchivaris
Te 's Gravenhage

¹⁷⁷ Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Algemeen Rijksarchief, 1800-1966, nummer toegang 2.14.03, inventarisnummer 131

2. Bericht: ontvangen 27 Juli 1905 No.319.¹⁷⁸

Batavia 25 Juni 1905

Hoog Edelgeboren Heer!

In het laatst van het vorige jaar had Mr. S. Muller de goedheid, de aandacht van het Bataviaasch Genootschap te vestigen op een in 's Rijksarchief berustend handschrift bevattende eene serie reisverhalen van den Gouverneur Generaal Abraham van Riebeeck.

Op mijn verzoek heeft toen de Directie van het Genootschap bij schrijven van 21 December 1904 No.406, U copie verzocht van de eerste 5 dier reisverhalen, vallende in de jaren 1703 tot en met 1709, daaraan toegevoegd een verzoek om inlichting aangaande de herkomst van bedoeld handschrift, hetwelk mogelijk uit de papieren van Nicolaas Witsen zou kunnen afkomstig zijn.

Tot dusver werd op dit schrijven geen antwoord ontvangen; aangezien ik nu deze reisverhalen gaarne zoo spoedig doenlijk in mijn bezit had gehad, neem ik de vrijheid Uwe aandacht voor deze copieën te vragen; de onkosten zal het Genootschap gaarne op zich nemen. Zoo het mogelijk ware, te breken met den regel van de koloniale afdeeling van 's Rijks Archief, om alleen ongecollationeerde copieën te verstrekken, zou dit de waarde dier afschriften zeer verhoogen.

Met hoogachting verblijf ik

Uw Hoogedelgeb. DWZ
F de Haan

¹⁷⁸Nationaal Archief, Den Haag, Algemeen Rijksarchief, 1800-1966, nummer toegang 2.14.03, inventarisnummer 131